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If there is any one thing on which the usefulness, the true greatness, and the permanence, of a free government depends more than another, it is Education.

Hence, it is not without satisfaction that we look upon our free schools, whose rudimentary education is afforded to so many at very small rates, or often entirely without charge. It is not without pleasure that we perceive new colleges springing up, as large cities multiply, and the population increases; it is most gratifying to see, in the older portions of the country, men of wealth and intelligence founding new professorships, and bequeathing the best of legacies to their successors — the means of acquiring knowledge easily and cheaply.

There is much to keep alive this train of thought, in the very means of acquiring education. The fertile invention of our age, and its teachers, seems to be especially devoted to removing all possible obstacles, and throwing all possible light on the once difficult and toilsome paths to the temple of science. Class-books, text-books, essays and treatises, written in clearer terms, and illustrated with a more captivating style, rob learning of half its terrors to the beginner, and fairly allure those who do not come willingly into the charmed circle of educated minds.

All this is truly excellent. This broad basis of education, which is laid in the hearts of our people, which the states publicly maintain, which private munificence fosters, to which even men in foreign lands delight to contribute, must be cherished by every American as the key-stone of his liberty; it must be rendered still firmer and broader, to meet the growing strength and the growing dangers of the country; it must be adapted to the character of our people,—different and distinct as we believe that character to be from that of all other nations; and, above all, without teaching creeds or doctrines, it must be pervaded by a profound and genuine moral feeling, more central, and more vital, than that of any narrow sectarianism.

Well, will any of our readers believe that this train of thought has grown out of our having just seen a most shabby and forbidding looking school-house! Truly, yes! and, as in an old picture of Rembrandt's, the stronger the lights, the darker also the shadows, we are obliged to confess that, with so much to be proud of in our system of common schools, there is nothing so beggarly and

disgraceful as the *externals* of our country school-houses themselves.

A traveller through the Union, is at once struck with the general appearance of comfort in the houses of our rural population. But, by the way-sides, here and there, he observes a small, one-story edifice, built of wood or stone in the most meagre mode,—dingy in aspect, and dilapidated in condition. It is placed in the barest and most forbidding site in the whole country round. If you fail to recognize it by these marks, you can easily make it out by the broken fences, and tumble-down stone walls, that surround it; by the absence of all trees, and by a general expression of melancholy, as if every lover of good order and beauty in the neighborhood had abandoned it to the genius of desolation.

This condition of things is almost universal. It must, therefore, be founded in some deep rooted prejudices, or some mistaken idea of the importance of the subject.

That the wretched condition of country school-houses is owing to a general license of what the phrenologists would call the organs of destructiveness in boys, we are well aware. But it is in giving this license that the great error of teachers and superintendents of schools lies. There is, also, God be thanked, a principle of order and a love of beauty implanted in every human mind; and the degree to which it may be cultivated in children is quite unknown to those who start leaving such a principle wholly out of sight. To be convinced of this, it is only necessary to inquire, and it will be found that in the homes of many of the pupils of the forlorn looking school-house, the utmost propriety, order, and method reign. Nay, even *within* the school-house itself, "heaven's first law" is obeyed, perhaps to the very letter. But to look at the exterior, it would appear that the "abbot of unreason," and not the "school-master," was "abroad." The truth seems to be simply this. The school-master does not himself appreciate the beautiful in rural objects; and, content with doing what he conceives his duty to the heads of his pupils, while they are within the school-house, he abandons its externals to the juvenile "reign of terror."

Nothing is so convincing on these subjects as example. We saw, last summer, in Dutchess Co., N. Y., a *free school*, erected to fulfil more perfectly the mission of an ordinary district school-house, which had been built by a gentleman, whose taste and benevolence seems like sunshine to warm and irradiate his whole neighborhood. It was a building simple enough, after all. A projecting roof, with slightly ornamented brackets, a pretty porch, neat chimney tops; its color a soft neutral tint; these were its leading features. But a single glance at it told, in a moment, that the *evil spirit had been cast out*, and the good spirit had taken its place. The utmost neatness and cleanliness appeared in every part. Beautiful vines and creepers climbed upon the walls, and hung in festoons over the windows. Groups of trees, and flowering shrubs, were thriving within its enclosure. A bit of neat lawn surrounded the building, and was evidently an object of care and respect with the pupils themselves. Altogether, it was a picture of a common district school which, compared with that we before described, and which one every day sees, was a foretaste of the millenium. If any stubborn pedagogue doubts it, let him come to us, and we will direct him on a pilgrimage to this Mecca, which is only eight miles from us.

It appears to us that a great error has taken deep root in the minds of most parents and teachers, regarding the influence of order and beauty on the youthful mind. Ah! it is precisely at that age—in youth—

when the heart is most sensitive, when the feelings are most keenly alive, than at any other; it is precisely at that age that the soul opens itself most to visions of beauty —that the least measure of harmony—the most simple notions of the graceful and symmetrical—fill it with joy. The few yards square, in which the child is permitted to realize his own vague ideal of a garden —does it not fill his heart more completely than the great Versailles of monarchs that of the mature man? Do we not forever remember with what transports of delight we have first seen the grand old trees, the beautiful garden, the favorite landscape from the hill-top, of our childhood? What after pictures, however grand—however magnificent—however perfect to the more educated eye, are ever able to efface these first daguerreotypes, printed on the fresh pages of the youthful soul?

It is rather because teachers misunderstand the nature of man, and more especially of boyhood, that we see so much to deplore in the exteriors of the houses in which they are taught. They forget, that in human natures there are not only intellects to acquire knowledge, but also hearts to feel and senses to enjoy life. They forget that all culture is one-sided and short-sighted, which does not aim to develop human nature, completely, fully.

We have an ideal picture, that refreshes our imagination, of common school-houses, scattered all over our wide country; not wild bedlams, which seem to the traveller plague spots on the fair country landscape; but little nests of verdure and beauty; embryo arcadias, that beget tastes for lovely gardens, neat houses, and well cultivated lands; spots of recreation, that are play-grounds for the memory, for many long years after all else of childhood is crowded out and effaced forever.

Let some of our readers who have an influence in this matter, try to work a little reform in their own districts. Suppose, in the first place, the school-house itself is rendered agreeable to the eye. Suppose a miniature park of elms and maples is planted about it. Suppose a strip of ground is set apart for little gardens to be given as premiums to the successful pupils; and which they are only to hold so long as both they and their gardens are kept up to the topmost standard. Suppose the trees are considered to be the property and under the protection of certain chiefs of the classes. And suppose, that, besides all this little arrangement for the growth of a love of order and beauty in the youthful heart and mind, there is an ample play-ground provided for the expenditure of youthful activity; where wild sports and gymnastics may be indulged to the utmost delight of their senses, and the utmost benefit of their constitutions. Is this Utopian? Does any wise reader think it is not worthier of the consideration of the state, than fifty of the projects which will this year come before it?

For ourselves, we have perfect faith in the future. We believe in the millenium of schoolboys. And we believe that our countrymen, as soon as they comprehend fully the value and importance of external objects on the mind—on the heart—on the manners—on the life of all human beings —will not be slow to concentrate all beautiful, good, and ennobling influences around that primary nursery of the intellect and sensations—the district school.

There is a strong illustration of our general acknowledgment of this influence of the beautiful, to be found, at the present moment, in this country more than in any other. We ullude to our *Rural Cemeteries*, and our *Insane Asylums*. It is somewhat curious, but no less true, that no country seats, no

parks or pleasure-grounds, in America, are laid out with more care, adorned with more taste, filled with more lovely flowers, shrubs and trees, than some of our principal cemeteries and asylums. Is it not surprising that only when touched with sorrow, we, as a people, most seek the gentle and refining influence of nature? Ah! many a man, whose life was hard and stony, reposes, *after death*, in those cemeteries beneath a turf covered with violets and roses; but for him, it is too late! Many a fine intellect, overtasked and wrecked in the too ardent pursuit of power or wealth, is fondly courted back to reason, and more quiet joys, by the dusky, cool walks of the asylum, where peace and rural beauty do not refuse to dwell. But, alas, too often their mission is fruitless!

How much better, to distil these "gentle dews of heaven" into the *young* heart, to implant, even in the schoolboy days, a love of trees; of flowers; of gardens; of the country; of home;—of all those pure and simple pleasures, which are, in the after life —even if they exist only in the memory— a blessed panacea, amid the dryness and dustiness of so many of the paths of life — politics — commerce — the professions— and all other busy, engrossing occupations, whose cares become, else, almost a fever in the veins of our ardent, enterprising people.

REMARKS ON SOME OF THE NEW PEARS.

BY SAMUEL WALKER, BOSTON.

[The following notes on Pears will be perused with much interest by many of our readers. Mr. Walker is looked upon as one of the *Chancellors* of the Court of Pomona in New-England,—from his long experience as a cultivator, his excellent judgment, and his position as chairman of the Fruit Committee of the Mass. Horticultural Society. Ed.]

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A. J. Downing, Esq.—*Sir:* The frequent inquiries made by cultivators of fruit, as to the merit of many of the new and other varieties of Pears, which have been fruited in this region during the past season, induce me to offer a few remarks for publication in the Horticulturist, as the result of my own experience.

As a whole, I think the new kinds of pears have been greatly over-rated, or the specimens presented have been but very "untoward" representations of many varieties, bearing great and high-sounding names.

The past season may have been unfavorable to the production of fine sized and high flavored specimens of some of the new varieties; but it should be remarked of the kinds known as *first rate*, such for example as the *Seckel* and *Louise bonne de Jersey*, that the season never renders them worthless. I shall, therefore, assume the position, that when a well grown and fully ripened specimen of any new variety shall, at the first trial, prove indifferent or third rate, it is not to be expected that it will ever attain the rank of a first rate fruit; such kinds I consider as not worthy of cultivation, and shall therefore not notice them in this communication.

But I know some will say, why do you not give us an account of all—the good—the indifferent—the bad, that we may avoid the worthless? I would suggest to my fruit

growing friends, that *they* should examine the description and title of all the varieties of fruit trees they wish to purchase, as they would examine the boundaries and title to a valuable estate. If they believe themselves incompetent judges in these matters, then they should take counsel of some one, on whose judgment they can rely with confidence.

During the past season there have been placed, upon the tables of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, upwards of fifty varieties of pears, which have not been previously exhibited in their hall. Among the leading contributors were Col. WILDER, president of the society, Messrs. MANNING of Salem, HOVEY of Boston, and several others. Many of the kinds were small and worthless. We hazard the opinion, that not more than five per cent. of all the new imported varieties of pears will be found worthy of extensive cultivation.

The following are among the new, or comparatively new, varieties of pears, which have been exhibited at the Boston shows during the season of 1847, viz:

HANNA'S.—This pear was found in the garden of Mr. HANNA, of Boston, some years ago; it resembles the Cushing in shape, and the White Doyenné in flavor; it is first rate. Season, September.

ROSTIEZER.—Introduced into this country by the late Mr. ROBERT MANNING; the fruit is small, juicy and high flavored; it deserves a place in every garden.

TYSON.—Originated near Philadelphia; a pear of great merit.

ANDREWS.—A native, probably of Dorchester, Mass.; it may be classed with the best.

HEATHCOT.—This delicious pear originated in the vicinity of Boston. Good specimens, fully ripe, are nearly if not quite equal to the *White Doyenné* in its palmy days.

PARADISE D'AUTOMNE.—An imported variety; it is very much like the Beurre Bosc. It is, in all respects, a first rate pear.

BEURRE D'ANJOU.—Imported from Europe by Col. WILDER, president of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. This pear is nearly first size, handsome, juicy, delicious; it has no superiors, and very few equals.

COLMAR D'AREMBERG.—Specimens large and very handsome; it rots at the core; flesh coarse; flavor astringent and somewhat bitter. Col. WILDER has fruited this variety, under other names, for some two or three years. Our opinion at present is, that it will prove unworthy of cultivation as a *table* fruit in this country, notwithstanding its reputation as a fine pear in Europe.

EYEWOOD.—A seedling, raised by Mr. KNIGHT of England. Specimens rather small; flesh tender; juice sub-acid, and high flavored. Well worthy of cultivation. October.

LAWRENCE.—Originated in Long-Island. This variety may safely be added to every collection. November—February.

VICOMPTE DE SPOELBERCH.—The specimens of this variety are generally small; but when highly and well cultivated, as they have been by Messrs. HOVEY, of Boston, they are nearly second size; flavor delicious. It is truly a first rate variety. November.

ESCHASSERIE.—This old pear is placed upon this list as deserving of extensive cultivation; flavor good, juicy, ripens well, and is in eating from January to May.

PRATT.—This variety has the reputation in Rhode Island as being a fine pear. From the specimens exhibited, we have been led to the same conclusion. It is fully second rate in size, handsome, tender and delicious. September.

ONONDAGA.—Large and handsome; juicy, but not high flavored. After frequent trials of specimens from various sources, it falls below our standard of a first rate pear. October and November. [This opinion is based upon specimens of the past autumn only. We have already stated that this fruit fell below its standard value during the past season; we trust it will redeem its character in 1848. ED.]

KNIGHT'S SEEDLING.—A native of Rhode Island; large, handsome, delicious. The fruit should be gathered before it is ripe. It will, probably, prove to be a pear of the first quality. September.

MONARCH (KNIGHT'S).—This pear is represented in the Catalogue of the London Horticultural Society as of great merit—the *very best* of Mr. Knight's seedlings; the specimens hitherto shown as the Monarch, have been unworthy of cultivation. The last (making in all four kinds,) was a specimen presented by Hon. J. S. CABOT, of Salem, from trees imported by Messrs. HOVEY & Co., Boston; this also proved to be a worthless variety. Scions of the Monarch, from the London Horticultural Society's Garden, and from other fruit bearing trees in England, have been received by the president of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. We also have five trees of this variety, from as many sources, and also a promise of scions (this month) from a fruit bearing tree, in one of the best private gardens in the vicinity of London, with a description of the fruit. Hence, we trust the true Monarch will (we fully believe it is already in the hands of many cultivators in this country,) find its way into our gardens, and prove worthy of the reputation it has in Europe.

I have omitted to notice several new native seedling pears, which have claimed my attention the past season. I may, probably, describe some of them another season, when their qualities shall have been more fully developed. Your friend,

SAMUEL WALKER.

Roxbury, Mass., Jan. 14th, 1848.

NOTES ON PEACHES, WITH A SELECT LIST BEST ADAPTED TO N. ENGLAND.

BY ROBERT MANNING, SALEM, MASS.

[WE have great pleasure in presenting the following notes to our readers. They are the result of many years experience of father and son, in Mr. MANNING'S widely known "Pomological Garden." ED.]

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ALTHOUGH the apple and pear, from being in eating in their different varieties almost throughout the year, are more valuable than the peach, which does not offer the same extent of season, I do not hesitate to express a decided preference for the flavor of the peach above any other fruit; and I firmly believe that, with proper attention to the cultivation of the trees and selection of the best varieties, the peaches of New-England are unsurpassable.

I have, in the specimen grounds of the Pomological Garden, nearly 150 kinds of peaches; and the subjoined list is composed of those which, out of 70 that have fruited, appeared best adapted to this climate. I begin with a list of ten varieties, arranged in the order of their ripening, which, after several years experience, I have found to unite in the highest degree the qualities of beauty, size and flavor in the fruit; and productiveness, vigor and hardiness in the tree.

1. Early York.—The *true* Early York I consider at the head of all early peaches, and deserving the popularity which it has obtained. It may be known by its glandless leaves, large flowers, and fruit inclining to oval, with a small point at the apex which is never sunken. The tree is vigorous and productive; and for a variety without glands, remarkably free from mildew. Ripe here in the latter part of August. The Large Early York, of New-Jersey, I have found less productive, and no more vigorous than the true kind.

2. Walter's Early.—Ripens the latter part of August and first of September, immediately succeeding the Early York. Fruit very fine and juicy; in shape globular, often a little flattened. Leaves globose, flowers small.

3. George the Fourth.—Although this variety is only moderately productive, it should by no means be omitted; being for delicacy of flavor unequalled by any other peach. At maturity during the first part of September. The tree makes a large round spreading head. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

4. Morris's Red Rareripe.—This variety is so similar, in general appearance, to many others of the same season, as to have occasioned some confusion. It is, indeed, difficult to name any characteristics which shall at once distinguish it from all others. I believe it possesses all the qualities necessary to give it a place in the first rank. Season the early part of September. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

5. Crawford's Early.—Of the finest flavor among the yellow fleshed peaches, and well known as unsurpassed for size and magnificent appearance. Ripe from the 10th to the 15th of September. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

6. Nivette.—Taking into consideration all the qualities, especially the flavor of this old French peach, which has been in cultivation since the time of Monsieur de la Quintiney, it has yet to encounter its superior among the modern sorts. In season about the 20th of September. Tree of upright growth. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

7. Bergen's Yellow.—Is to my taste the finest flavored of all yellow fleshed peaches, as well as one of the handsomest. Shape rather irregular oval, compressed on the sides. Tree very vigorous, and foliage of the most luxuriant description; bright glossy green, crumpled, and the midrib contracted; giving to the leaf a curled appearance. Ripe the latter part of September. Leaves with reniform glands. Flowers small.

8. Late Admirable.—I have never been disappointed of a good crop of large, handsome and delicious peaches from this tree, even in the most unfavorable seasons when all others have failed. Last of September and first of October. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

9. Oldmixon Clingstone.—No collection of peaches is complete without one good juicy Clingstone; and I have no hesitation in pronouncing the Oldmixon the *best* of the half dozen Clingstones which I cultivate. Last of September and first of October. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

10. Crawford's Late Melacoton.—Among the late peaches, unrivalled for every good quality. Last of September and first part of October. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

These ten kinds, I consider "*unimpeachable.*"

If required to select *one variety*, combining in the greatest degree all desirable qualities, I should choose the Crawford's Early.

For two trees, my choice would be EARLY YORK and CRAWFORD'S EARLY.

For the best six, EARLY YORK, WALTER'S EARLY, CRAWFORD'S EARLY, NIVETTE, BERGEN'S YELLOW and CRAWFORD'S LATE.

If a greater variety be desired than is described above, it can be made by additions from those noticed below; many of which are of great excellence, though not equal to those already mentioned.

11. THE APRICOT PEACH.—Yellow, with sometimes a tinge of red or a few red spots, and much resembling an Apricot in external appearance. Juicy, and of fine flavor. Of medium season. Leaves reniform. Flowers large.

12. COOLEDGE'S FAVORITE.—This fine peach, otherwise first rate, I have found a little inclined to rot. It is rather early. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

13. COLE'S EARLY RED.—Productive, and would be a good kind for market, but is injured by being sometimes a little dry. Ripe immediately after the Early York. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

14. CAREY'S MAMMOTH CLING.—A good variety, which I received from Mr. T. Hancock, of Burlington, N. J. Rather oval in shape; of good size, though not so large as its name would seem to indicate. Flesh white and well flavored. Ripe the last of September and first of October. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

15. CLINTON.—Of good flavor, productive and very large—a good variety for market—in general appearance, and the depression of the summit resembling the Grosse Mignonne, but larger. Tree of spreading, irregular growth. Ripe the first half of September. Leaves globose. Flowers large.

16. GROSSE MIGNONNE.—This fine flavored peach I have found a little inclined to rot; but to counterbalance this, it is a hardy variety, and will often produce a crop of fruit in an unfavorable season when others fail. On the whole, I consider it, though a desirable sort, surpassed by some of our native peaches. It is easily known by its rather grayish appearance, summit always depressed, and small stone. Growth of the tree more upright than that of any other peach. From the 10th to the 15th of September. I believe it is this variety which has been cultivated in New-England as the *Royal George*. Leaves globose. Flowers large.

17. HASTING'S RARERIPE.—I do not find this capital peach described in any pomological work, and am not informed of its origin. It was received here from Mr. J. A. KENRICK of Newton, Mass., and I presume it is a native of that vicinity. Above medium size, form round, often a little flattened; yellowish white in the shade, having a purplish red cheek on the sunny side, shaded off with specks of the same colour. Productive, juicy and of delicious flavor. Middle of September. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

18. JOSE SWEET.—Received from Mr. S. LYMAN of Manchester, Conn. A peach of remarkably delicious flavor, but not very attractive exterior; being colored of a greenish white, with a dull red cheek. In general appearance, it is much like the Washington. Last of September and first of October. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

19. MORRIS'S WHITE.—Like the preceding, less beautiful than good. Middle to the last of September. Leaves reniform. Flowers small.

20. JACQUES, or JAQUISH.—Very large; skin very downy, dull orange, with a dull red cheek. Of good flavor, productive and profitable for market, as it may always be depended on for a good crop. Last of September. Leaves reniform. Flowers small.

21. PRESIDENT.—A well known variety, productive and profitable. In shape rather

oval. Last of September. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

22. Green Rareripe.—Productive, and of fine flavor. Size medium. Ripe the middle of September. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

23. Red Cheek Melacoton.—As a sure and regular bearer, this well known peach is not excelled by any of the numerous seedlings raised from it, though some may surpass it in size and beauty. Last of September and first of October. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

24. Strawberry.—A good early variety, not above the second size, but first rate in flavor. Last of August and first of September. Leaves reniform. Flowers small.

25. Washington.—Of fine flavor, and tolerably productive. Last of September. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

26. Columbia.—This singular peach, when in perfection, presents a rich and beautiful appearance, and is of delicious flavor. When cut open, the fruit often shows a streak of red next to the skin. The tree being only a moderate bearer, invariably exhibits a healthy and vigorous appearance. Last of September and first of October. Leaves reniform. Flowers small.

27. Lemon Clingstone.—Well known by its oval shape and projecting *mamelon*. In flavor, second only to the Oldmixon Cling. Last of September and first of October. Leaves reniform. Flowers small.

28. Kenrick's Heath.—A very strongly marked variety, which, though not of the finest flavor, is desirable for its size and productiveness. Flesh red at the stone, which is long and large. Last of September. Leaves reniform. Flowers small. [Third rate here. Ed.]

29. English Swaesh.—Not a good bearer, but very delicious. Ripe from the 10th to the 15th of September. Leaves globose. Flowers small.

30. Weld's Freestone.—Large, roundish oval, greenish white with some red, productive and of good flavor. From the first to the middle of October. In a late or unfavorable season, it will not always ripen; but is then excellent for preserving. Leaves reniform. Flowers small.

In selecting the first ten kinds, I have had in view those best adapted for a garden; but by substituting the *Cole's Early* and *Jacques* in the places of George the Fourth and Nivette, the list would be composed of the best kinds for the orchard and market.

If it is thought desirable to extend the peach season by the addition of an earlier kind than the *Early York*, I would recommend the *Early Sweetwater*, which is very sweet and juicy, but not a good bearer; and the tree is neither hardy nor vigorous. A variety possessing all the good qualities of the *Early York*, but earlier, is still a desideratum.

Among my specimen trees are many varieties imported from England, which have much disappointed my expectations. They are not remarkable for fine flavor, while they are greatly deficient in beauty; and as a whole, much inferior to the seedlings raised in this country. Yours respectfully.

Robert Manning.

Salem, Mass., February, 1848.

"WARD'S CASES"—THE BEST MODE OF GROWING PLANTS IN ROOMS.

BY DR. WM. W. VALK, FLUSHING, L. I.

In our communication for the Horticulturist for January, the growing of plants, in what are called "*Ward's Cases*," was alluded to in terms of approval, and the remark followed, that "for the cultivation of plants in the parlor and drawing-room, these cases are admirably adapted; and if made with taste, as they should be for such uses, and filled with carefully selected specimens, they would soon become fashionable and very much sought after." Your correspondent, E. G., of Bridgewater, Mass., has, in the note you have sent me, been pleased to notice our remarks with interest, and, writing you on the subject, desires to know how the cases are constructed? What kind of plants may be most successfully grown in them? Will the plants bloom as freely in the cases as out of them? And whether or not a door is necessary, "so that some of the pots may be exchanged from time to time, to give variety?"

With great pleasure we now reply to these queries, and shall give your readers all the knowledge we have, both acquired from the experience of others and the results of our own. How are the cases constructed? We may best answer this in a comprehensive way by saying—have them made of any size and pattern you please, plain or ornamental, of wood, brass, iron, zinc, or bronze. There is no rule to go by; the owner is to consult his fancy, and keep in view the position he intends the cases to occupy. But we must be more specific to be better understood, and give a brief description of the case we have, and a drawing of one also. Our case is made of black walnut; it is four feet long, two and a half feet wide, and three feet in height to the top of the roof. It is perfectly plain, and as light as possible, consistent with the requisite strength. The bottom of the case is in the form of a box six inches deep; at each corner an upright piece is framed in, and between these, other pieces like the sash of a window. The roof is made in the same manner, with a ridge piece, and a double pitch of about twenty-five degrees. For putting in or taking out the plants, our roof lifts off entirely, having a pin and socket at the four corners; but it is just as convenient to place a door where it is wanted when the case is made. The bottom and sides of our case are lined with zinc; and there are eight holes in it to allow superfluous water to drain off. It stands on brass castors; but it would have been better to have had it made with legs, sufficiently long to bring the case up to the bottom. or sill of the window: our case stands on a table. The glass used is clear and strong, and puttied on the inside. From this description, a case just like ours may be easily constructed; but in order to make the matter as plain as possible, we give a drawing of it, Fig. 50. If a more elegant and ornamental structure is desired, the pattern, Fig. 51, is just the thing. This, executed in bronze or gilt copper, would be beautiful; and the glass used should be "plate glass" in single pieces for the sides, ends, and the top. Varying the shape and style to suit the taste of the parties who have one or more "*Ward's Cases*" made, they can be large or small, plain or elaborately elegant, as they may desire. For putting in or taking out the plants, a door must be made where most convenient, and sufficiently large to do so with the most perfect facility.

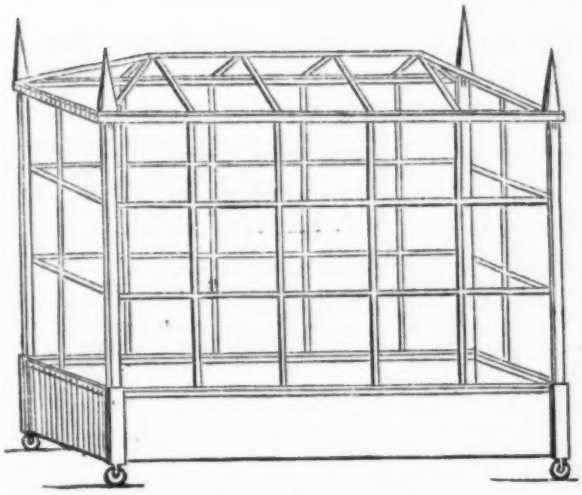

Fig. 50.—*Ward's Case*

We have thus answered the query—how are the cases constructed, and proceed to the second question—what kind of plants may be most successfully grown in them? We do not know that we can better answer this question, than by giving an extract from a letter, written to Dr. Lindley by Dr. Harris, of Dumfries, a devoted horticulturist, and a very successful grower of plants in these "miniature green-houses."

"I am convinced they will come more and more into general use, the better their capabilities are developed. The best guide to find out what may be done by them, is to know what has already been done. I am therefore induced to send you some account of mine; reserving a more particular description to some future time. I have, at present, in bud and in bloom, *Cattleya Forbesii*, *C. Loddegesii*, Gloxinia maxima alba, Gloxinia speciosa—two plants, Achimenes coccinea, A. longiflora, Thunbergia alata, white and pink double Oleanders, *Cattleya crispa*, Cypripedium insigne, *Dendrobium cuculatum*, *Leptotes bicolor*, *Brassia Lanceana*, *Oncidium flexuosum*, *O. papilio*, *Maxillaria stapelioides*, *Stanhopea grandiflora*, *Cœlogyne fimbriata*, *Oncidium viperinum*, *Dendrobium speciosum*, *D. cupreum*, *D. fimbriatum*, *D. pulchellum*, *Maxillaria Harrisoniæ*, Crinum longifolium, Gloxinia rubra, Gesneria elongata, *Lælia anceps*, Stephanotis floribundus, Hoya carnosa, Cypripedium venustum, Æceocladus maculata, and a Galeandra. So congenial does the atmosphere appear to be, that most of the plants are growing vigorously. Gloxinia leaves take root in three weeks, and form tubers the size of a pea in six. Portulacca Thellusonii and Petunia magna rosea rooted in a fortnight. You will see by the above list that my box is not a little elegant drawing-room ornament; it stands six feet high, is four feet broad, and two feet wide; has a door at one end, two shelves inside, and as many hooks at the top as possible for suspending the Orchidaceæ. During the summer, the temperature has never been below 65°, Fah.; and two hours sunshine raises it to 90°. The window in which it stands looks S.S.W." In addition to the above, Dr. Lindley thus replies to a correspondent's inquiries: "*Any* plants will succeed in these contrivances (Ward's Cases) under good management, provided they do not grow too large. Everything depends on a correct appreciation of their principle. Some ignorant persons fancy they must be air-tight,

Fig. 51.—*Ward's Case.*

which is both absurd and impossible. We have seen growing in these cases Linnæa borealis, Primroses, Ferns, Geraniums, Dentarias, Mimulus moschatus, Fuchsias, Cacti, Mosses, Camellias, all sorts of Alpine plants, Crocusses, Hyacinths, Azaleas, Winter Aconites, and many more."

To these remarks of Drs. Lindley and Harris, we would add, that roses, small orange trees, or *any other plants of suitable size*, may be successfully and beautifully grown, kept free from dust, and in an atmosphere uniformly moist and congenial to vegetable development. Those who can procure Mr. Ward's pamphlet* should do so. It contains all the information that can be given, and is written in a plain, intelligible style. Exclusion of the air was not the object aimed at by Mr. Ward in his admirable contrivance. He could not have effected this in any other way, than by hermetically sealing every chink and crack. What he wanted was uniform moisture, a still atmosphere, and exclusion of dust and soot; these ends he has secured.

In the case described by Dr. Harris, the greater number of the plants were *Orchideæ*. These we have italicized, and consider them well worthy the attention of our amateur gardeners; not only for their singularity, but also for their exquisite beauty and the sweet odor of their flowers. They are easily grown in pots, baskets, shells, or on rough blocks of wood; in this last form, they are very interesting and thrive admirably.

Will the plants bloom as freely and fully in the cases as elsewhere? Yes, quite as much, if not more so; and the beauty of the flowers is greatly heightened by the clean and healthy looking foliage. To put in or take out the plants, a door is necessary, and may be placed wherever most convenient.

To your correspondent's inquiries we have now replied, and given drawings by which he or any one else can have a plain or very handsome Ward's Case constructed. As E. G. says,—"it is the very article needed in our parlors and sitting-rooms, to take the place of the pots and other vessels by which our windows are now encumbered and sullied."

There are, however, says Dr. Lindley, some difficulties in the way of growing plants in close moist cases, which amateurs unacquainted with the nature of vegetable life are unable to overcome; but which a sensible gardener, who does not belong to the "drowsy" school, would easily remove. Among these difficulties, the principal one is the adjustment of the amount of moisture to which the plants are exposed in the cases; also to the surrounding heat, and to their own proper nature. Another is the prevention of dew upon the inside of the glass, by which the interior is frequently entirely hidden. These are practical embarrassments that must be met by the skill and ingenuity of cultivators. As each plant which is put in a Ward's Case requires, or can bear, a greater or less amount of moisture, the regulation of the quantity of this agent becomes highly important to their health and vigor. Intelligence and reflection must lend their aid in guarding against an excess or deficiency; and this can only be effectually accomplished by careful observation and close watching. As to the deposit of dew upon the inside, we may remark, that since this is owing to the *outside* of the case being colder than the air that it surrounds, the only course to take is either to warm the external air by some means, or to open the door in the case for a short time; and as the latter is the more

* On the Growth of Plants in Closely glazed Cases; by N. B. Ward. 8vo. 1842. Wiley & Putnam may have it.

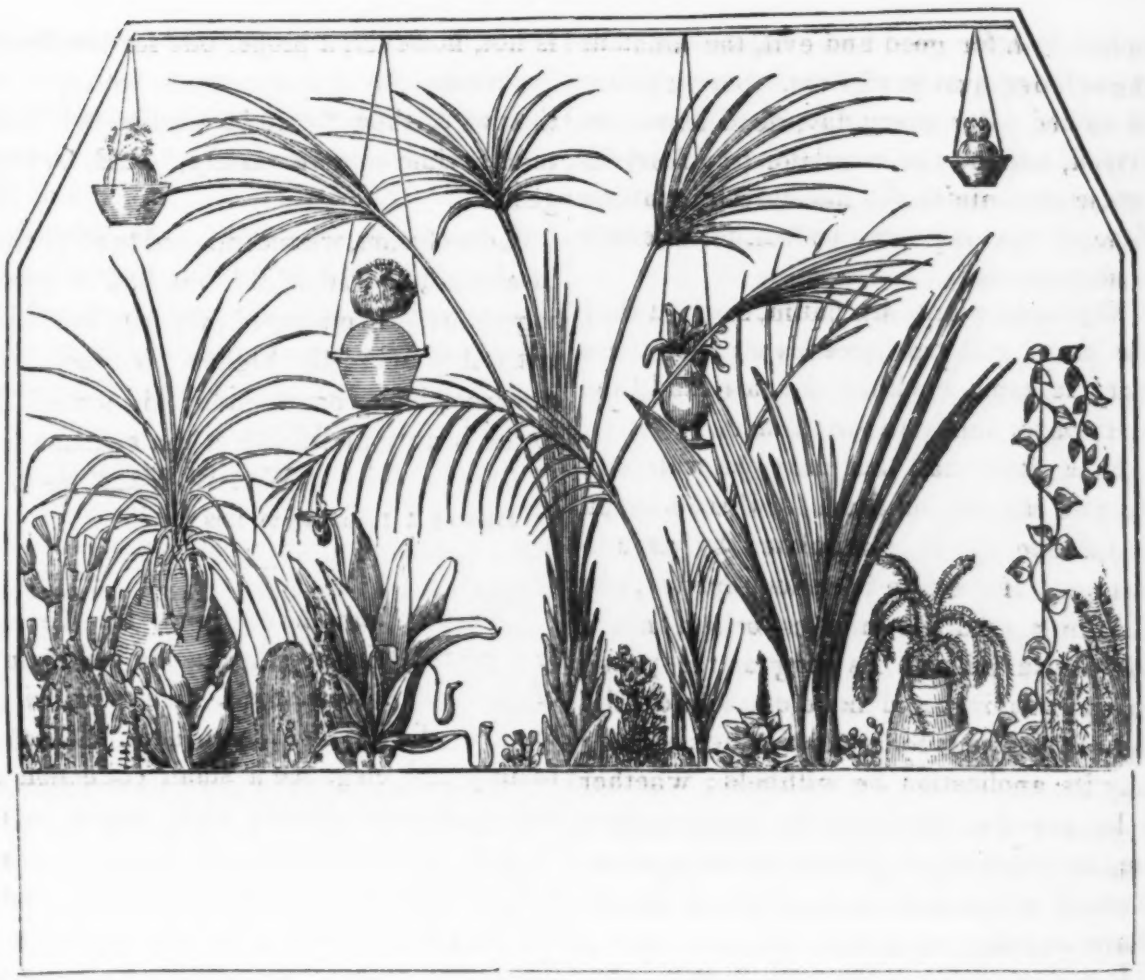

Fig. 52.—*Longitudinal Section, showing the Plants growing in the Soil, and suspended from the Brass Rod under the Top of the Glass Case.*

easy, and is quite efficient, it will be the more generally adopted. Opening the door is an advantage to the plants, if not continued too long.

Supposing the case to be ready for use, introduce the plants according to their size, the tallest in the centre, the least in height surrounding them. Regulate the distances between the pots, so that no plant touches its companion, and fill up between with fresh green moss from the woods. This arrangement will exercise the amateur's taste and skill, and give a finish to the interior of his cases quite refreshing to the eye. When all this is done, give the whole a good watering, over the leaves as well as the soil, allow the superfluous water to drain off, wipe the inside of the glass perfectly dry, and close the door. The case will now be placed at the window selected for it, and once a week alternately, each side turned to the light. At first, the moisture rising from the moss and soil will become pretty freely deposited on the glass inside; but this can always be removed by *opening the door* for a half hour or less. To some extent, this deposit of dew will be constantly taking place; but as the way of removing it is easy, it can bear no weight as an obstacle to the successful management of the cases. The only *real* difficulty is in the regulation of the amount of moisture to which the plants are always subjected; not unfrequently the atmosphere within the case being at or near the point of saturation. To guard against an excess of this potent

agent, both for good and evil, the amateur or gardener must be vigilant. Let the plants be looked after every day, dead leaves removed, and by the regulator (*the door*) increase or diminish the moisture by shutting close, or opening more or less, for a longer or shorter time.

When the plants are put in, see that they are clean *and free from insects;* for these increase rapidly within the case, and then it is not so handy to get at them.

How often shall the plants be watered? No rule can be laid down for this operation as to time, for it is regulated by circumstances. If the case is seldom opened, and then only for a few minutes, once a month will be sufficient. As long as the plants appear thriving, and none of them exhibit signs of flagging for want of water, so long may its application be withheld; whether it be one, two, three or six months since they received any. Always use *rain water*, of mild temperature; no other is fit for plants in pots.

It will perhaps be as well to say here, that when Mr. Ward first constructed his cases, the plants grown in them were not in pots, but planted in the soil which filled the bottom of the case; and such is the plan now with many persons who use them. It is not, however, a proper one for the drawing-room; the pots are much better, as in this way, they "can be exchanged from time to time to give variety," as E. G. suggests.

In conclusion, we recommend to all parties interested, a trial of this method of growing plants. If managed properly, they cannot fail to afford the highest pleasure; and the cases being ornamental, add materially to the beauty and finish of the apartment.

WM. W. VALK, M. D.

Flushing, L. I., January 28, 1848.

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[*Ward's Cases* have been, for the last few years, quite popular among cultivators of plants in cities abroad. It is surprising, to those who have not seen them, with what facility and elegance a small collection of plants, even of species which are the most difficult to cultivate in the impure atmosphere of large towns, are grown in these closely-glazed cases. For the windows of the drawing-room, one of these cases is, as our correspondent points out, beautifully adapted. We add to his illustrations another from *Loudon's Magazine*, Fig. 52, showing a collection of rare exotics, growing in the case. ED.]

SELECT FRUITS FOR THE NORTH.

BY THE LEADING HORTICULTURISTS OF MAINE.

A. J. DOWNING, ESQ.—With the view of publishing in your Horticulturist, a catalogue of fruits, for the use and guidance of all who are planting, or who design to plant orchards at the north, I have long been searching for such lists as will present exclusively the names of all the hardy fruits, which are known by experience to thrive on this continent in the region north of latitude 43°. This includes almost the whole of the British dominions, all the state of Maine, and nearly all of New-Hampshire and Vermont, and a portion of New-York.

For this purpose, I have addressed a circular to a few experienced cultivators, and to others who have bestowed much attention upon the subject, asking for their opinions, based upon their own experience and

observation. They are gentlemen in whom the utmost confidence may be placed. Henry Corse, Esq., of Montreal, and Joseph Pinneo, Esq., of Hanover, N. H., are well known. The Hon. Ephraim Goodale, of Orrington, Judge Pond, of Bucksport, and Gen. Herrick, of Hampden, Me., have been cultivators in this vicinity for nearly 40 years. The others are younger men; but they have given much attention to the subject.

I herewith forward you a copy of my circular and their several answers, which you are at liberty to make such use of as you may think will be most beneficial to the public. It is very desirable that we should have as much light as possible on a subject of so much importance, and one which is fortunately attracting very general attention, at least in this section of Maine. I therefore hope, that, as several fine orchards and nurseries have lately been commenced in this vicinity, their proprietors will hereafter favor the public with pomological communications in publications which circulate in this northern section, in order that the example of their laudable enterprise, and the results of their experience, may be extensively known, properly appreciated and practically improved. Some evidence of an increasing interest in one branch of the subject may be found in the fact, that the number of imported gooseberry plants which have been set in the gardens of Bangor and vicinity within two years past, is at least fifty fold greater than the whole number previously planted. Perhaps the same may be said also of plum trees. It is believed that a still greater supply will be requisite to meet the demand for the coming spring; and large orders have accordingly been sent to England, for the choicest gooseberry plants to be delivered here before the time for planting. It has been the great error of early settlers generally, in all our states, to waste their time and labor in raising *natural* fruit trees of almost worthless kinds, instead of improving them by the best varieties of grafts. It may be said they did their best, at a period when neither the requisite knowledge nor the best varieties of trees were easily accessible. Let us, then, do our best also, but not *likewise;* for neither of these excuses can be pleaded in our day and generation. Horticultural societies and publications have accumulated and distributed a large amount of knowledge, which has already planted the nursery, set the grafts, and matured the orchard; thereby rendering accessible to all, through the increased facilities of communication, and the easy transportation of the present time, both the knowledge and the ready means of easy improvement.

In Bangor and vicinity, trade and lumbering have so completely engrossed the attention of the early settlers, that, until within a few years, the cultivation both of natural and grafted fruit has been, with rare exceptions, entirely neglected. Indeed, it has been a common opinion that our climate is wholly unsuitable for fruit cultivation. But on this point experience has, of late, effected a complete revolution of public sentiment. Many experiments have been tried, and the results are so satisfactory that numerous individuals on the Penobscot river are inspired with the same enthusiasm on the subject that prevails in Boston and the vicinity. We may, therefore, reasonably expect, (and, notwithstanding the erroneous ideas which have generally prevailed in regard to "Down East," we confidently predict,) that in a very few years, the fruit grown in Maine will be found equal to any other, not even excepting that of Massachusetts or of New-York, particularly for *exportation.*

The first inquiry here is, what will best suit our soil and climate; second, the flavor of the fruit, or its value for the kitchen; third, its productiveness; fourth, the health and thriftiness of the tree.

The Jefferson Plum, among other fruits, has fruited with me for two years past. It is highly valuable on this river, proves to be productive, and justifies all you say of it in your work on "Fruits and Fruit Trees." I think it has no superior in the plum catalogue.

The selections made by my correspondents would, as you are aware, be essentially varied were they to select for other portions of the United States. When other new varieties shall have shown fruit, and been fully proved and tried, we shall be able to select a more perfect catalogue of hardy trees and plants for the north; and I trust that our march of improvement will be rapidly onward. Respectfully yours.

HENRY LITTLE.

Bangor, Maine, Jan. 2d, 1848.

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CIRCULAR.

Bangor, Dec. 20, 1847.

If "time is money," it may be said that economy in the use of time and means is money. Endeavoring to practice upon this principle, I have for several years been at considerable pains to introduce to the people, in this part of the state of Maine, the choicest varieties of such fruits as facts and experience have indicated to be best suited to our soil and climate. Knowing that much still remains to be done, I would avail myself of such additional experience as those engaged in cultivating fruits can furnish me. My object now, is to ascertain what fruits are best adapted to the soil and climate of Maine, New-Hampshire, Vermont, the northern part of New-York, New-Brunswick and the Canadas. Also, to inquire in what kind of soil your orchard or nursery is planted. Our Bangor soil is a gravelly and clayey loam; the clay often preponderating.

If you were restricted to only three apple trees, what varieties would you select for your location?

If restricted to six trees, what varieties?

If restricted to twelve trees, what varieties?

What number of sweet apple trees would you plant to the hundred?

Pear, plum and cherry trees, and gooseberry plants, the same questions throughout except the last.

Have you cultivated (unprotected) with success any one or more varieties of the peach, quince, grape, or other valuable fruits not here enumerated, that will stand the rigors of our climate? If so, please name them, and the varieties.

Do you cultivate the White Dutch Currant, Myatt's Victoria, Downing's Colossal and Wilmot's Early Red Rhubarb? If so, what is your estimate of each of them? What three varieties of strawberries do you consider best for our climate? Respectfully yours. HENRY LITTLE.

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Col. LITTLE has sent us the replies to the foregoing circular, embodying a considerable amount of valuable information for the northern fruit grower. We would very cheerfully print these answers entire, did they not require more space than we have at our disposal for a subject which, though largely important at the north, is less interesting to our numerous readers in other parts of the Union. We shall, therefore, be obliged to content our readers by presenting an epitome of the experience and opinions of the gentlemen who have replied to Col. LITTLE's circular.

One of the veteran cultivators of Maine is the Hon. EPHRAIM GOODALE, of Orring-

ton. For more than forty years his attention has been largely directed to the collection and testing of hardy orchard fruits on the Penobscot river. His letter is very brief, and relates chiefly to the apple. We give it nearly entire:

"This climate will not permit us to grow southern fruits; but we can supply all seasons easily with good apples, as well as many of the best pears, plums, gooseberries and currants. There is no doubt, also, that more experience will enable us to cultivate successfully many fine cherries, grapes, peaches, etc.

"I shall, however, confine myself at the present moment, to *apples;* as I consider them, for *Maine*, worth all the other fruits. You inquire, 'if restricted to three varieties, which would I select?' I answer—

"*Williams' Favorite*, *Ribston Pippin*, and *Roxbury Russet*. But as the limit is almost too small, even for a very small collection, I should wish to add the *Porter* and the *Gravenstein*, to keep up the succession and afford a constant supply. These five I would recommend as the smallest collection to be planted on our Penobscot river. If *six* were desired, I would add to the list the *Early*, or *Sweet Bough*. For twelve varieties, I would say—

Early Harvest,
Williams' Favorite,
Sops of Wine, ['*Bell's Early*,' as known here.]
Sweet Bough,
Porter,
Golden (or *Or.*) *Sweet*,
Maiden's Blush,
Gravenstein,
Garden Sweet,
Ribston Pippin,
Johnan Sweeting,
Roxbury Russet.

"This will furnish a supply through the whole season; and as they have been *thoroughly proved* here, their merits can be depended on. There are many new varieties not yet fully proved, which may, probably, excel some of the above.

"The proportion of sweet apples in an orchard of one hundred trees, depends on the location and intentions of the grower. Some men would plant fifty, others only five. When deprived of a good market, and when it is desirable to fatten stock with this fruit, I would recommend a large proportion of sweet apples."

The following interesting notes, in reply to the circular, are from a very intelligent cultivator of our acquaintance, Mr. S. L. Goodale, Saco, Maine:

"I would recommend the following, as the best apples for Maine culture:

"Best Three. *Williams' Favorite*, (summer,) *Gravenstein*, (autumn,) *Baldwin*, winter.)

"If the *Baldwin* can be grafted on healthy grown trees it does well; but young trees from the nursery are *tender*.

"For the best *six*, add to the above, *Rhode-Island Greening*, *Yellow Bellflower*, and *Ribston Pippin*.

"My selection of twelve, would be composed as follows:

Early Bough,
William's Favorite,
Porter,
Gravenstein,
Golden Sweet,
Rhode-Island Greening,
Ribston Pippin,
Fameuse,
Yellow Bellflower,
Baldwin,
Danvers' Winter Sweet,
Roxbury Russet.

"For the best three pears—*Dearborn's Seedling*, (summer,) *Flemish Beauty*, (autumn,) *Vicar of Winkfield*, (winter.)

"For the six best—add *Fulton*, *Cushing* and *Belle Lucrative*.

"For the twelve best—add *Frederick of Wurtemburg*, *Dix*, *Heathcot*, *McLaughlin*, *Golden Beurre of Bilboa*, and *Beurré Bosc;* and for cooking only, *Black Pear of Worcester*.

"Plums—best three—*Jefferson*, *Prince's Imperial Gage*, *Purple Gage*.

"For the best six—add *Washington*, *Diaprée Rouge* and *Coe's Golden Drop*.

"For the best twelve—add *Green Gage*,

Yellow Gage, *Lombard*, *McLaughlin*, *Red Gage*, *Brevoort's Purple.*

"The only cherries which prove *hardy* and *good* with me are the *Downton*, *Downer's Late*, *Elton*, *Black Eagle* and *May Duke.*

"*Myatt's Victoria* and *Early Red* (Wilmot's) *Rhubarb*, are very fine. The others I do not cultivate.

"The only *good* grapes (and these are native ones,) which are *perfectly* hardy, are the *Limington White Grape* and *Buckminster's Cream Coloured.* Others may be cultivated to advantage in our state, with a protection of evergreens in winter.

"The White Dutch Currant is very productive, perfectly hardy, and of the best quality.

"The best strawberry is *Hovey's Seedling*, and it should be cultivated in alternate strips with Early Virginia, also good and earlier, but not so large. *Red* and *White Wood Strawberries* are good, though small, and do not need to be planted near others; none of them need any other protection than the winter's snow.

"*McIntyre's Seedling Peach* is one of the hardiest, though rather late in ripening. It originated in this county, as did also the *Limington Grape.*

"The following list of Gooseberries will give a succession of good fruit of different colours, viz: *Crown Bob*, *Whitesmith*, *Early Green Hairy*, *Red Champagne*, *Green Walnut*, *Roaring Lion*, *Heart of Oak*, *Jolly Printer*, *White Lion*, *Warrington*, *Golden Drop*, *B. Atlas.*

"The Orange and Pear-shaped Quinces are hardy, but, with me, are liable to a sort of fungus, similar to the Black Knot of Plums, but more fatal; it attacks both fruit and limbs. Is there any remedy for it?

"You will notice that I omit the *Bartlett Pear*, and do not place the *Green Gage Plum* in the highest rank, to say nothing of lesser deviations from prevailing opinions elsewhere. I will give the reasons: Of the Bartlett, I have raised and purchased from various sources more than 500 trees; and of these, not one-tenth are alive, and very few promise to become profitable. Either the soil, climate, exposure or something else, does not suit them. In some cases, it seems to be a want of correspondence between the scion and stock. In one tree, of about 15 feet high, scions were inserted which grew finely several years; but one spring the trunk and roots were found to be entirely black and dead, though the scions still looked well, and some, which were cut, grew well in other stocks the same season. Another tree, of same size, partially grafted, soon became covered with blotches of canker, and lingered two or three years more. In some few instances it has done well. The true Green Gage is of slow growth, (unless grafted high,) tardy in bearing; then bearing light crops, is in perfection but a few days, and is very liable to crack. For quality, though none are better, it is equalled by the *Jefferson*, when both are in perfection. It is impossible to give a *very* small list of names which should be first rate in all cases, owing to the difference produced by soil, exposition, &c.; for instance, the *Williams' Favorite Apple* needs a strong, deep and rich soil to develop its true quality, while the *Bellflower* needs a warm light one; and so of others. Great advantage may be taken by suitably adapting different varieties to such soils as suit them; and there is here much yet to be ascertained by experiment and interchange of the results of cultivation. Respectfully yours. S. L. GOODALE."

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The following lists are offered by Messrs. ELIJAH BECKWITH & ALBERT NOYES of Bangor, Me.:

"Of Apples. For the three best—*Williams' Favorite*, *Gravenstein*, and *Rhode-Island Greening*.

"For six, add—*Yellow Bough*, *Fameuse*, and *Danvers' Winter Sweet*.

"And for twelve, add—*Ribston Pippin*, *Baldwin*, *Golden Ball*, *Red Astrachan*, *Early Harvest*, and *Golden Sweeting*.

"Of Cherries. For the three best—*Black Heart*, *May Duke*, and *Kentish*.

"For six, add—*Black Eagle*, *Downton*, and *Downer's Late*.

"Of Pears. For the three best—*Dearborn's Seedling*, *McLaughlin*, and *Black Worcester*.

"For six, add—*Bartlett*, *Belle Lucrative*, [Fondante d'Automne,] and *Winter Nelis*.

"For twelve, add—*Louise Bonne de Jersey*, 2 *Vicar of Winkfield*, *Beurré d'Aremberg*, *Seckel*, and *Beurre Bosc*.

"Of Plums. For the three best—*Jefferson*, *McLaughlin*, and *Lombard*.

"For six, add—*Imperial Gage*, *Bleecker's Gage*, and *Washington*.

"For nine, add—*Purple Gage*, *Imperial Ottoman*, and *Green Gage*.

"Of Gooseberries, the following sorts:—*Crown Bob*, *Red Champagne*, *Yellow Champagne*, *Red Warrington*, *White Lion*, *White Smith*, and *Sulphur*."

Messrs. Beckwith & Noyes remark, "in selecting the Rhode-Island Greening Apple, Black Worcester Pear, Lombard Plum, and Kentish Cherry, in selections so small as those here made, their value for *uniform productiveness* and for *cooking*—indispensable qualities with us—have been considered."

The next response is from Col. L. Cutler, of Dexter, Maine; dated January 10th, 1848; from which we quote as follows:—

"I know that it is a prevalent opinion, that our climate is unsuited to the raising of good fruit, particularly the pear. This is a great mistake, although there are some kinds of pear and apple which require a warmer climate; there are enough, those among the very best known, which will flourish as well with us as in the world, and certainly plums. Currants and gooseberries will not do better anywhere.

"I do not mean, by the foregoing remarks, that of fruit, any kind can be raised in perfection without proper attention; the want of this care and the want of knowledge, or the dishonesty of nurserymen, I believe have been the cause of most of the failures which have been attributed to the cold climate. First, then, most men, when transplanting trees, instead of preparing deep and broad holes, well filled with good earth for these trees, dig a hole in the clay or gravel, (as the case may be,) just sufficient to crowd in the roots of the tree, and cover with the same material; thus, by their first act either killing the tree, or so injuring it that it never becomes a healthy and vigorous tree. The practice of nurserymen of engrafting upon bad and unhealthy stocks—the graft of the pear upon the quince, the thorn or wild pear instead of good stocks, and the palming off incorrect varieties for good ones—have been, and are now vexatious cause of failure and loss, even where great care has been taken in transplanting and cultivating the tree, and are practices which should be punished like any other swindling. If the evils above named could be obviated, I think we should hear little complaint against the climate, so far as raising fruit is concerned. I have never tried the quince; but my opinion is, that it does require a warmer latitude than ours to flourish. The Red and White Dutch Currants I raise; and I consider the common currant as unworthy of cultivation, compared with them.

"I have several varieties of gooseberry,

some of which approach so near to each other that it is difficult, perhaps, to say which is best. I have the following, all of which flourish well, viz: *Farrow's Roaring Lion, Keen's Seedling, Melling's Crown Bob, Miss Bold, Red Warrington, Early Sulphur, Yellow Champagne, Massey's Heart of Oak, Parkinson's Laurel, Woodward's Whitesmith.*

"When it is considered how easy it is to multiply gooseberries and currants to any desirable extent by cuttings, it seems strange that any one, with a small garden, should neglect their cultivation.

"I will answer your other inquiries according to my own notions, which may be very different from those of an experienced fruit grower. If I were restricted to three apple trees, I should take the following: *Rhode-Island Greening, Canada Reinette,* and *Ladies' Sweeting.*

"If to six, I would add—*The Ribston Pippin, Gravenstein,* and *Early Harvest.*

"To increase the number, I should add—*Red Astrachan, Williams' Favorite, Porter, Court of Wyck, Danver's Winter Sweet,* and the *Jonathan.*

"As to the Pears, I consider the *Bloodgood, Bartlett, Flemish Beauty, Seckel,* and *Passe Colmar,* as among the best pears; and, judging from the thrift of my trees, have no doubt they will stand our climate.

"Plums, for three trees—*Green Gage, Imperial Gage,* and *Jefferson.*

"For six, I would add—*The Washington, Yellow Egg,* and *Smith's Orleans.*

"In speaking of the foregoing trees, I can speak from my own experience so far as their growth is concerned; as I have them all, and all in a thrifty condition.

L. CUTLER."

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The following lists we extract from the reply of W. GOODALE, of S. Orrington, Me.:

"Apples. For the three best—*Sops of Wine, American Golden Russet, Ribston Pippin.*

"For six, add—*Porter, Gravenstein,* and *Queen's Pocket,* [for cooking.]

"And for twelve, add—*Williams' Favorite, Early Bough, Roxbury Russet, Maiden's Blush, R. I. Greening,* and *Garden Sweet,* (as known here; probably a local name.)"

This list he gives with confidence, as the result of twenty years with each variety.

"Regarding pears," he observes, "we have had about fifty kinds in bearing. Many of them proved too tender for our northern climate, while others prove quite hardy. All things considered, we find the following six varieties the most *profitable* for cultivation with us, viz: *Frederick of Wurtemberg, Chelmsford, Harvard, Belle Lucrative, Beurré de Ranz,* and *English Jargonelle.*

"All these produce good crops. The Vicar of Winkfield, which will no doubt prove quite hardy, has not fruited with me. I have, in my garden, fifty of the most noted kinds of plums; and, though with less confidence, I give you a list of the best of these, as well as some other fruits."

The following are the selections of the other fruits:

"Plums. For the three best—*Jefferson, Green Gage,* and *McLaughlin.*

"For six, add—*Washington, Imperial Gage,* and *Purple Gage.*

"For twelve, add—*Lombard, Bleecker's Gage, Smith's Orleans, Red Gage, Imperial Ottoman,* and *Magnum Bonum,* (for preserving.)

"Gooseberries. For the three best—*Crown Bob, Whitesmith,* and *Red Warrington.*

"For six, add—*Parkinson's Laurel, Red Champagne,* and *Yellow Champagne.*

"For twelve, add—*Green Walnut*, *Keen's Seedling*, *Cheshire Lass*, *Heart of Oak*, *Rifleman*, and *Wellington's Glory*."

White and Red Dutch Currants, as well as gooseberries, as we learn from this gentleman, thrive and bear abundantly with him.

Gen. HERRICK, of Hampden, furnishes the following list of twelve apples, which he considers the best:

"*Early Harvest*, *Sops of Wine*, (or *Bell's Early*,) *Fameuse*, *Porter*, *Wine*, *Sweet Golden Russet*, *Sweet Bough*, *Honey Pink*, (a local fruit,) *Killam Hill*, *Baldwin*, *Nonesuch*, and *Swaar*, or Mammoth Green Pippin. (Not, probably, the true Swaar.)"

Gen. H. remarks that, as *market varieties*, he would substitute the *Porter* for the *Fameuse*, and the *Nonesuch* and *Swaar* for the *Early Harvest* and *Sops of Wine*. His attempt to cultivate the peach and quince, in the common culture of the open garden, have been entirely unsuccessful; the trees being too tender for the climate. He has tried sixteen varieties of grapes. All require protection, and none but the *Sweet Water* ripens fruit well; and the latter demands a good deal of care.

Isabella, Catawba and Schuylkill, (Alexander's,) require, usually, a longer season than that of his district, though they have borne high flavored fruit with him. They need to be covered in winter; and they make so large a quantity of wood in summer that it is too troublesome to lay them down and take them up again.* The Victoria Rhubarb is cultivated by this gentleman, and proves there, as everywhere, greatly superior to the common sort.

We have, next, from Hanover, N. H., a letter, written by a gentleman well known in New-Hampshire for his devotion to horticulture. With the exception of some prefatory remarks, (in which he speaks of the apathy regarding the more refined kinds of cultivation always felt in a comparatively new country, and the very decided change for the better now so apparent in the granite state,) we must lay nearly the whole of this letter before our readers.

"For ten years past, I have travelled through various sections of the country, and have been a close observer of various matters and things pertaining to fruit growing and tree raising, and have collected nearly 1000 varieties of fruit, which have been propagated in a specimen orchard and the vicinity.

"Many of these varieties proving nearly worthless for our climate, it has led me, for five or six years past, to select the hardiest and most productive varieties, and to look up new choice native varieties for propagation, whose habits are congenial to a short summer and a severe winter. These operations have been a school to me, in which I have learnt many valuable things; but the tuition comes too high, leaving me minus, at least $1000, for want of the proper information to start upon.

"And now, sir, if I can aid you, or any of your kindred spirits in your undertaking, or benefit the citizens of Bangor, and the community at large, I am willing to give the results of my experience. In Massachusetts, all that is necessary to ensure success in raising and maturing a crop of fruit trees, in almost any soil or location, is a liberal share of manure and good attendance. Here, it is not so. They may have both, and the sooner be destroyed by a bad winter.

"On my clayey ground, my Baldwins, R. I. Greenings, and other late young varieties, were killed close to the ground the

* This is easily overcome by giving the vines the annual pruning before laying them down. Autumnal pruning the vine is, on some accounts, preferable to spring or winter pruning. ED.

second and third winters. This was occasioned by early frost, preceded by very warm weather, bursting the bark near the ground, and turning the sap of the tree brown. While the Shropshire, Summer Harvey, Red Astrachan, Blue and Sweet Pearmain, Latham, and some native varieties, with the Crabs, stood unmolested.

"On my alluvial soil, I have succeeded but little better with the Baldwin. *On the hill land* I have had but little trouble in raising nearly all the desirable varieties of the apple, pear, plum and cherry. But while my trees have been killed the worst in the valley, on my clay, and alluvial soil, and near the river; others engaged in the business, have succeeded the best on some low ground, near some large pond or lake, and that, too, sixty miles north of me. Nearly all our valleys and low grounds in New-Hampshire and Vermont, which are contiguous to streams, are more unfavorable for the raising of most kinds of fruit and fruit trees, than are the hills, while the banks of a lake or large pond prove favorable. Such as Champlain, Memphremagog, Winnipiseoge, and some large ponds. Will you or some one give me your views on what makes the difference? Were it the ocean, instead of ponds and lakes, we should readily say it was the humid atmosphere during winter. It has proved to be a great object here, to select our choicest native fruits for cultivation, still there are many varieties, from a more favored clime that are among our very best fruits, after being acclimated, and some before; such as the Early Harvest, Porter, Baldwin, Northern Spy, 20 ounce apple, Crier [?] Sweet, Gravenstein, &c., with some pears, and nearly all the varieties of plums.

"The first Baldwins I raised here were as green as grass, with not a tinge of red on them till March. Now, they are *very* red, bear as well, are of a higher flavor, keep a month or two longer, and are decidedly a more valuable apple than in Massachusetts. The Northern Spy makes a strong growth, and comes through the winter well, and promises to make a most valuable variety for a northern climate.

"As to your question, 'were I restricted to three trees, what varieties would I select for my location?' I hardly know what to say to you. Had you said twenty-five, it would have been an easy task. But I will answer it as it is. Still, I am conscious that I shall not meet the views of every fruit grower.

"Apples. Three best—Shropshire, Shaker's Pippin, and Baldwin.

"For the six best—Early Harvest, Williams' Favorite, Porter, Shaker's Pippin, Jewet's Red, and Baldwin.

"For the twelve best—Early Harvest, E. Sweet Bough, Summer Harvey, Porter, Gravenstein, Jewet's Red, Dexter, Danver's W. Sweet, R. I. Greening, Baldwin, Real Nonesuch,* and Northern Spy.

"For the extreme north, or unfavorable locations, I would recommend the Red Astrachan, Shropshire, Summer Harvey, Taylor's Spice, Shakers' Pippin, Buel Sweet, Pound Sweet, Sweet Pearmain, Blue Pearmain, Morey's Melon Apple, Latham, Dexter, Punch Bowl, and Latham Pippin, (late keeping.)

"In selecting the number of varieties, I might add half as many more; between which and those named, there would be but little choice.

"In my selection, I have had reference mainly to their *superior value for extensive cultivation*, when considered in all their habits. They are all great bearers.

"As to 'how many sweet apple trees to

* This is the "Canada Red" of western New-York. Ed.

a hundred set in an orchard,' I would have at least twenty-five; and were I to raise apples entirely for feeding out, as well as for domestic use, I would have two-thirds sweet, and for this reason: They are worth as much as potatoes for hogs, sheep, cattle and horses, and as easily raised; and as the potato crop is cut short by the rot, it makes it far more important that sweet apples should be estimated as a substitute. Let every permanent fence on the farm and road side be lined with productive sweet apple trees, and even then [until orchards are abundant,] it will be, as a friend of mine once said, who had 120 sweet apple trees of one variety. I said to him,—why do you have so many trees of a kind? 'They are my *Hog Sweetings;* and I set them on purpose to feed my hogs.' I said, —well, how do your hogs like them? 'Do not know; they have never got any of them yet, and I am afraid they never will.'

"Pears, I have not cultivated so extensively, having tried only about twenty varieties of a more southern clime; a part of which, together with a few choice northern varieties, I have cultivated with good success.

"Three best—Bloodgood, Udal, Doyenne, or Old St. Michael.

"Six best—Bloodgood, Udal's Seedling, Udal, Sweet Bell, St. Michael, and Winter Nelis.

"Twelve best—Bloodgood, Udal's Seedling, Dearborn's Seedling, Sweet Bell, Buffum, St. Michael, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Fulton, Vicar of Winkfield, Prince's St. Germain, and Winter Nelis.

"Plums. I have cultivated over fifty varieties of the plum, mostly on the wild or Canada plum stock, which makes the hardiest and most productive tree for this climate; and when grafted or budded close to the ground, grows large and handsome. Most varieties of the plum have succeeded perfectly well here, and large crops were raised the past season. Three best—Early Orleans, Prince's Imperial Gage, and Purple Gage.

"Six best—Early Orleans, Duane's Purple, Blue Dwarf Gage, Green Gage, Lombard, and Black Damson.

"Twelve best—Royal Native, Duane's Purple, Washington, Smith's Orleans, Blue Dwarf Gage, Imperial Gage, Green Gage, Purple Gage, Columbia, Jefferson, Orange, Lombard, and Black Damson.

"Cherries. The Kentish or Pie Cherry, (called here the Tame, in distinction to the wild cherry,) is the main cherry in this region, and by far the most hardy and productive; it produces the same from seed, and is nearly as good for us as any of the Heart, Bigarreau, or Duke Cherries, that can be raised here. I have tried some dozen varieties, and find the Black Heart, Black Tartarian, Hyde's Native, Downer's Late, May Duke, &c., succeed tolerably well. Still, we do not get a crop of fruit oftener than once in three or four years. The others make a rapid growth, and set full for fruit; but the buds are spoiled by the severity of the winter, or a late frost in the spring.

"Gooseberries and currants, I have not, as yet, cultivated extensively; but they are all perfectly hardy. I have some of the Red, Green and White English Gooseberries, and a few valuable varieties selected from our swamps.

"I have the large Red and White Dutch, and the Black Currants.

"The White Dutch succeeds well, and in some respects is preferable to the Red.

"Grapes are raised in this region, in favorable locations, with open culture. The Isabella, and White Sweet Water, have been as much cultivated as any varieties,

but they are too late for our short summers; and much has been done of late to raise and seek out new native varieties, that are earlier and hardier, and that will stand the severity of our climate, unprotected. Many valuable varieties are already produced. I have, as yet, cultivated but few of them; but am now making a selection.

"The varieties of Rhubarb you mention, I have not, as yet, cultivated.

"Strawberries, I have cultivated but little. Still, any desirable variety will flourish well here.

"I have given you my selections, and could give you a reason for all my preferences, but it would occupy too much time. I am well aware that I have already trespassed on your patience; and the only apology I have to make, is the deep interest I ever take in this subject, I am respectfully yours. JOSEPH PINNEO."

Hanover, N. H., Jan. 28, 1848.

.....

We will observe, in conclusion, that our northern readers owe Col. LITTLE many thanks for the interesting information which he has elicited from the most experienced cultivators of our coldest states. Notwithstanding the apparent difficulties in the way of the fruit grower in that portion of the Union, it is evident that orchards, of the finest hardy fruits, will soon cover the hill sides there. A great deal of disappointment will be avoided, in the future, by novices in the culture of the garden, by a comparison of the different lists given, from which they will see directly the sorts which experience has proved, and which experience only can prove, to be best suited to the climate.

It is quite a remarkable fact, which we have gathered from previous conversations with Col. LITTLE, and other Maine horticulturists, that, while many fruits which attain great perfection here, fail entirely there; others, of English origin, which fall far below their foreign reputation with us, fully maintain it in the state of Maine. As illustrations, we may mention the *Ribston Pippin Apple*, only second rate (all points considered,) in the middle states, yet, which reaches the highest perfection on the Penobscot river; and has all those qualities of high flavor, crispness, and good keeping, which render it so popular in Great Britain. *Gooseberries*, too, of the finest Lancashire varieties, the culture of which is often so unsatisfactory here, grow to enormous size, and attain the highest flavor, without mildew, and with the least possible care, about Bangor.

We observe, among the most popular fruits, two excellent native varieties which originated in Maine,—the McLaughlin Plum and the McLaughlin Pear. Both these kinds we know very well; and they are truly excellent fruits, worthy of general cultivation.

TRANSPLANTING EVERGREENS.

BY LEVI BARTLETT, WARNER, N. H.

IN the September number of your Horticulturist, is an article on "Transplanting Evergreens," by one of your correspondents. From some little experience in transplanting, I am led to believe, with the writer, that the spring is the best time to transplant evergreens, *under proper conditions*, in connexion with Sir HENRY STEWART'S advice, of "choosing trees that stood naturally in an *exposed or open site*," when evergreens are to be taken from the woods.

The conditions I allude to are, first, to have the holes dug sufficiently large, and the excavated soil from the holes well pulverized, and nicely piled by the sides of them; secondly, after the frost is out of the ground, whether March or April, (February for further south,) choose a day for taking up the trees which will be succeeded by a *cold freezing night;* commence by cutting with a sharp spade a suitable distance from the trees, so as to lift them with a ball of soil attached to the roots, proportioned to the size of the trees; after, leave them through the night, the trees *lying* upon the ground, so as to expose the ball of earth to the action of the frost. Early next day, with wagon or other suitable conveyance, lift the trees, and transport before the frozen earth thaws. Throw in the holes sufficient of the excavated soil to bring the trees to the right depth; after the trees are placed, fill up with the soil, and dash on a few buckets of water to fill up all interstices about the roots; and, believe me, the trees will scarcely at all feel the removal, and will grow nearly as well as if they had remained in their native localities. I ought to add,—provided you do not remove with the knife, or saw, too many of their "nether limbs;" as severe pruning of this kind is pretty certain death to *evergreens.*

You will perceive this method possesses many advantages over that of cutting, or digging up trees in the coldest winter months, when the ground is frozen as hard as a rock.

Last spring, several persons in the village near where I reside, at much expense of time and labor, transplanted from their native localities a large number of beautiful Fir trees into their door yards, and about their grounds; some of them sixteen feet high. I saw the trees as they were brought into the village on wagons. Many of the large roots were cut off to the length of eighteen inches from the base of the trees; and all the roots were as bare of soil as the limbs were. I remarked to the persons engaged in transplanting the trees, that they were laboring in vain; and, instead of planting them in their grounds, they had better throw them on the brush heap. They thought otherwise. Their door yards presented a fine appearance till about midsummer, when a sad change came over the symmetrical Firs. Every tree, except one, died before autumn. These men will never again be caught transplanting evergreen trees, until they can obtain more correct notions about the art.

Last spring I transplanted quite a number of Hemlock, Spruce, Fir, Larch, White and Norway Pines, from six to ten feet high. They were all taken up with a ball of earth about the roots, but not frozen. They have flourished the past summer *exactly in proportion to the quantity of soil attached to the roots.* The Norway Pines, about a dozen in number, grew on a drier and more gravelly soil than the others; and by the jolting of the wagon, most of the soil dropped from their roots, and only two of the number lived through the summer. Had I taken the course recommended in this paper, I have no doubt every tree would have lived. Yours, &c.

LEVI BARTLETT.

Warner, N. H., January 26, 1848.

Fig. 53.—*Araucaria imbricata.*

THE ARAUCARIA OR CHILI PINE.

[We quote the following notice of the striking new evergreen tree, so much the rage at present in England, (see vol. 1, page 541,) from the *London Horticultural Magazine.* From the experience of the last two seasons, there is every reason to believe that this tree will prove hardy in the latitude of New-York. Ed.]

Araucaria, (*Jussieu,*) is derived from *Araucos*, a name applied to the natives in those districts of Chili where the tree is indigenous.

Araucaria imbricata, Pavon (imbricate-leaved Araucaria, or Chili Pine).—Leaves generally eight together, ovate lance-shaped, thickened at the base, stiff, straight, with persistent mucros. Cones globular at the end of the branches, about the size of a man's head; scales beautifully imbricated.

A very remarkable evergreen tree, of magnificent dimensions, almost the only one to be met with in those districts where it is indigenous. It is a high tree, from 80 to 100 feet, with a trunk like a pillar. Standing closely together in the forest, the trees are generally devoid of branches to the height of fifty or sixty feet: the top is in the shape of a depressed cone, the side-branches proceeding from the trunk in a horizontal direction, and ascending slightly at the tips. Over those branches the leaves are thickly set like scales, which give an appearance of rich embossed work. From the thick coating of leaves which pervades the whole outline of the tree, an idea of extreme brittleness is conveyed to the mind. The wood, however, was successfully used in ship-building in 1780 by Don Francisco Dendariarena.

This plant is a native of the mountainous parts of Chili, in South America, particularly in that division occupied by the tribes of original inhabitants called Araucos, from whom the tree derives its name; and from the fact that the climate where it thrives has accommodated itself so wonderfully to European productions, a hope may be held out that the Araucaria may in this country

prove a valuable acquisition to the arboriculturist. The largest forests of this tree are on the elevated parts of Naguelbuta and Caramavida, which Pavon describes as "offering to the view, in general, a rocky soil, though in parts it is wet and boggy, on account of the abundance of rain and snow which falls in these regions, similar to many provinces in Spain." Pœppig, a traveller in the Peruvian Andes, states, that "the Araucaria forest of Antuco is the most northerly that is known in Chili; so that the northern boundary of this king of all the extra-tropical American trees may be estimated at thirty-six degrees south latitude. The extreme southern limit is not so clearly ascertained; which is not surprising, when we consider how little, comparatively, is known of Western Patagonia: it seems probable, however, that it does not stretch far beyond latitude forty-six degrees. Between Antuco and Valdivia this tree only grows among the Andes, and, as the Indians assert, solely on their western declivities, and nowhere lower than from 1500 feet to 2000 feet below the snow line, up to which they frequently reach. Farther to the south, the Araucaria appears at a lower elevation; and in the country of the Cuncos, and about Osorno, is said to occur on mountains of a very moderate altitude, near the sea. The Corcovado, a mountain that rises opposite Chilöe, is said to be studded, from its foot to the snow line, with large groups of these beautiful trees.

The wood, as grown in the Andes, is of a yellowish white colour, veiny, and of close texture; and is said to have been used in ship-building. The tree produces a whitish resin, used extensively by the natives in the cure of wounds and contusions. The fruit may be said to form the regular harvest of several of the original tribes, and it is eaten by them in a raw state, and after being boiled and roasted.

The tree is particularly ornamental, and no plant can be used with greater effect in distinguishing particular spots of country appropriated to art. It should be on every gentleman's lawn: it is both elegant and unique; and if sheltered during frosty weather, so as to keep off that rustiness of colour which a free exposure to the seasons brings with it, it will well repay the trouble in spring time.

With regard to what is the best mode of propagating this tree, there is but one opinion—raising from seeds. Bottom heat is invariably recommended; and the seeds should be inserted to the depth of about an inch and a quarter, in large boxes or pans filled with free loamy soil, which should on no account be allowed to get dry. When two years old, they should be transplanted into nursery lines, in a warm sheltered situation in the open ground, carefully guarding them from excess of moisture, and, in frosty weather, from excess of cold. Those raised in hot-houses, green-houses, &c., certainly look better; but when planted in their final situation, in exposed places, the former soon take the lead. Planted by the sea side in Norfolk, they have made shoots about a foot in length in one season.

THE VINEYARDS OF THE OHIO.

BY A. H. ERNST, CINCINNATI.

In writing upon the *Vine*, it is impossible to forget the many associations of antiquity which are inseperably connected with it. In sacred history, these are especially interesting. In all time, has the vine, and the enjoyment of its fruit, been regarded as a blessing especially adapted to the health, comfort and luxury of man. "And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, every man under his own vine and under his own fig tree."

The vine seems to have been given to man in a more perfect state than most other fruits; for though many of the fine varieties are the result of patient cultivation, the finest wild grapes of either Syria or America are truly delicious, when compared with

wild crabs or wild peaches. Its culture and enjoyment, in the earliest ages of the world, were considered synonymous with the prosperity and happiness of man: "and they shall build houses and inhabit them, and they shall plant *vineyards* and eat the fruit of them."

Though the world has grown old, the paternal love of vineyards has not in the least diminished in the heart of man. We are just as busy, at least in this part of the new world, with planting vineyards as were Noah and his immediate descendants; and I may, therefore, I trust, be pardoned for giving some detail of the early history of this branch of agriculture in the valley of the Ohio.

If we take a retrospective glance of fifty or sixty years—a period the scenes of which are perfectly within the recollection of some yet on the active stage of life—when the unexplored wilds of the Ohio—the now *indeed* beautiful Ohio—were penetrated by a few hardy adventurers, seeking to better their condition, with but little to cheer them in their dreary course, but encountering, at every step, the shrieks of wild beasts, and their but little less ferocious companion, the Red Man, we shall have some data from which to start. The great abundance of the wild grape, found indigenous in the forest, and the luxuriancy of their growth, towering and spreading over the tops of the tallest trees, abundantly loaded with fruit, justifies the idea that the better and finer sorts would flourish here also. How or from whence these were to be obtained, or what sorts would prove adapted to the soil and climate, would remain a matter of slow inquiry and experiment. This must, of necessity, mainly depend on emigrants, in after time, from vine-growing districts, without a knowledge of the soil and climate, bringing with them old and valued sorts, and applying their old and accustomed modes of cultivation. These emigrants brought with them a strong natural prejudice against native sorts, and a different mode of treatment. Before success could attend them, old prejudices and predilections must be abandoned, and a new practice, and native sorts sought to occupy the place of old friends unsuited to their new locations. These were hard struggles, which required time to bring to a successful issue.

Early attention was drawn to the subject, and efforts were attended with more or less success. None of these were, however, of much importance, until about the year 1796 or 7, when John James Dufour, a zealous Swiss, came to Lexington, Ky. Having previously looked up all the vine cultivators east and west, the smallest of them not escaping his notice. He succeeded in forming a joint stock company, for the purpose of extensive operations. The first difficulty presenting itself, was a want of plants. These were at much cost, collected partly about Philadelphia, New-York and Baltimore, with some he had brought from Switzerland, to the amount in all, of thirty-five sorts, *all foreign varieties*. Most of these were brought to fruiting, and some specimens of wine were produced. "This was drank by the stock-holders," I presume with much satisfaction. Unfortunately, however, these vines soon after perished with the mildew and other diseases to which the European sorts were found subject, except a few stocks of two sorts, the Madeira and Cape. This was so discouraging, that after a few years efforts to increase the stock of these, the former, in the mean time, sharing the fate of the rest, the project was abandoned, and the little band dispersed. Afterwards joining themselves to a small colony of their countrymen, who had commenced a settlement on the banks of the

Ohio, in the then territory of Indiana, some fifty miles below Cincinnati, where they had commenced the cultivation of the vine in 1802. This location was afterwards named Switzerland, and the town Vevay, in honor of their fatherland. Here, uniting their force, and adding their dear-bought experience, they commenced vigorous and successful operations with the Cape grape, [Alexander's or Schuylkill Muscadell.] As there is some doubt and dispute about the origin of this grape, I will here add DUFOUR's account of it. He says he procured it of one LEGOUX, residing at Spring Mill, near Philadelphia, who informed him that he imported it from the Cape of Good Hope. There, he supposes, it must have been carried by the Dutch settlers, and thinks it hence a European grape.* Be this, however, as it may, importance must always attach itself to it as the foundation of a successful effort to cultivate the grape in the valley of the Ohio, for the *manufacture* of *wine*. Time will show whether for good or evil, to the morals of our people.

Here these indefatigable strangers persevered in their efforts, and produced, for many years, a dark red wine, too harsh and astringent, however, to receive general favor, which confined its use mostly to the German and French population. Its harshness was probably owing to the age at which most of the cultivators found themselves obliged to sell their product. Bottled samples of it have been kept until it had attained an age of some years, which were pronounced, by good judges, to resemble and equal fine Burgundy, showing what it is capable of making, with care and age. The average yield, per acre, in their early operations, was 180 gallons, and the market price $2. This price, however, was greatly reduced by importation of French wines, so that they have been driven out of the market, and their operations abandoned. The fruit of their vineyards not possessing the rich and pleasant flavor to recommend it to public favor for the table.

Experience conclusively showed that it is the native sorts on which reliance must be placed; as the foreign sorts, with no exceptions, (unless the Cape be such,) have proved a failure, and disappointed all expectations. Although the culture of the vine was yet in its infancy, sufficient had been done to prove beyond dispute, that the soil and climate of this valley are well adapted to the grape; and all that was necessary to complete success, was some suitable native sort. This had not been lost sight of, while the suspension at Vevay tended to develop and to make room for a more varied and diffused system of cultivation, with different and better sorts. Of these, the CATAWBA has taken and maintained the lead. So successful and profitable has its culture proved, that I shall not be above the truth to set down the number of *acres* now covered with it in this vicinity, at *four hundred*. Of course it will be understood that only a part of these have come into fruiting. With all this quantity under cultivation, such is the desire for wine-making and its profits, that few markets where there is any pretension to cultivate the vine, are more deficient in the supply of the fruit than ours, at the high price of three to five dollars per bushel. The reasons assigned for this, are, that the bushel of good fruit will yield, on an average, four gallons of wine, and this readily commands from one to one dollar fifty cents per gallon from the press. It should be borne in mind, that the extension of the Ohio vineyards, thus far, has been limited only by the supply of plants. From this, (as the plants are now multiplied with great facility and at low prices,) should their product

* It is unquestionably an American grape.—ED.

continue to meet a demand, its future extension may be inferred. However, I promised to confine my remarks to its infantile struggles into existence. My purpose in this article is answered, in having shown that every man may indeed set under his own vine, (if not his fig tree,) in our highly favored valley, and enjoy the luxury not only of its shade, but the greater one of an abundance of fine rich fruit, with none to molest or make him afraid.

Very respectfully,

A. H. ERNST.

Spring Garden, Cincinnati, Feb. 1, 1848.

THE BEST SOIL FOR PEAR SEEDLINGS.

BY H. P. BYRAM, LOUISVILLE, KY.

DEAR SIR:—I have read the communications in the December and January numbers of the Horticulturist, "On raising Pear Stocks," with much interest. The disease described by Mr. JAMES WILSON, of Albany, appears to prevail in most parts of our country, and the cause seems to be as mysterious as that of the "*Potatoe rot.*" I observed it extensively in various parts of the Union, in the years of 1845 and 6. How long it has prevailed I know not; or whether the *same locations* where it once appears are ever after entirely exempt, I am not informed.

With the hope of throwing some light on the subject, I will give you the result of my observations for the last two years.

In the spring of 1846, I planted several quarts of pear seeds in my nursery, at Brandenburg, Ky., in a dry, loamy soil, of but moderate fertility. The trees were well cultivated until the 23d of June, (when I left home for the season,) after which they received but little attention. At this period the plants were from 6 to 24 inches high. At the end of the season they measured from 1 to 6 feet high.

Last spring I repeated the experiment in the same nursery, upon similar soil; but owing to incessant rains, (the seeds having vegetated in the sand,) I was compelled to have them planted before the ground was in a suitable condition to work. Hence but a small portion of them came up. The early part of the season was extremely dry, the trees, however, proved equally healthy with the former crop, though not receiving as thorough cultivation, they are but about half the size. At the same time I planted several quarts of seed in our nursery near this city, upon level land, naturally good, though somewhat worn. Texture, deep sandy loam. These, under my own observation, received extraordinary cultivation. The season here being much more favorable, as to showers, than at Brandenburg. Notwithstanding, in August they were attacked, in spots, by the blight, as described by Mr. Wilson, and ultimately, the entire lot was wholly denuded of foliage. Our pear grafts also suffered in like manner, while those in Brandenburg, the first season, made a growth of from 3 to 7 feet high. My apple grafts, in that location, also far exceed in luxuriance, any that I have seen in other soils, presenting a clean, smooth stem, and healthy foliage, by which the varieties, either in summer or winter, are more distinctly marked than is common in other grounds.

Now, sir, premising that you have pointed out the cause and remedy for the disease alluded to in your article on "The *Philosophy of Manuring Orchards*," in your Jan. no., where you say, "In this state of things,

the baffled practical man, very properly attributes it to *some inherent defect in the soil*, and looks to the *Chemist* for aid," I herewith send you the analysis of the *virgin* soil of the Brandenburg Nursery. That upon which the stocks and grafts grew, has been in cultivation, perhaps twenty years, and lately with the application of good dressings of stable manure and ashes.

ANALYSIS BY CHAS. WHITTLESEY.

"Color, dark yellow—no gravel, easily pulverized, all passes the sieve.

Carbonate of lime,.....	3.10
Oxide of iron, ...	4.21
Vegetable matter,*.....	3.53
Water, (not expelled,) ...	2.13
Sand and Clay,.....	86.50
Loss,.....	43
	100.00"

Is it not possible that in growing pear seedlings as thickly as is the custom, that some important element of the soil is exhausted before the close of the season?

Very respectfully yours, &c.,

H. P. BYRAM.

[REMARKS.—This is a valuable statement. The analysis of the soil, in Mr. BYRAM's Brandenburg grounds, shows at a glance, why the pear and apple succeed so well there. It contains a large proportion of *lime*, and a large proportion of *oxide of iron*. He is also in the habit of using *ashes* as manure.

The *lime* is most essential to the growth of the apple and pear tree, and if our views are correct, (see vol. 1, p. 318,) iron is also essential to give health to the foliage. To the presence of the latter, in the Brandenburg soil, we are inclined to attribute the absence of the leaf blight, so troublesome at Louisville and many other parts of the country.

Wood Ashes, leached, is probably safest; is certainly one of the very best manures for the pear tree, as it contains both lime and phosphate. To prevent the *leaf blight*, in raising seedlings, we again repeat our recommendation to water with weak copperas-water, or to mix the cinders of the blacksmith-shop with the soil of the seed-bed—say at the rate of a bushel of cinders to a bed ten feet by four.—ED.]

ARE THE OLD PEARS EXTINCT?

BY J. J. THOMAS, MACEDON, N. Y.

[SOME of our Boston friends are still unwilling to abandon the idea, that many of the finest old varieties of fruits have *run out*, and are no longer worthy of cultivation. Thus we find, in the first number of the Transactions of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Gen. Dearborn speaks of them in the following terms, in his learned article on the pear:

"From some inexplicable cause, the St. Germain, St. Michael, (Doyenné or Virgalieu,) Brown Beurré, Messire Jean, and several others of the best old varieties of pears, have either disappeared, or are so deteriorated as to be no longer worthy of cultivation. This lamentable decadence, however, is not confined to this country, but is experienced in France, the probable birth-place of most of the pears, bearing the highest reputation, formerly known in the gardens and orchards of both England and the United States."

It would appear from the above, that it is taken for granted that such pears as the

* In procuring this specimen of soil, I mingled a portion from *near* the subsoil, which leaves in the analysis a smaller portion of vegetable matter than would be found otherwise.

St. Michael (*White Doyenné* or *Virgalieu*,) are considered, in their decadence, no longer of any value to the cultivator. We have, for sometime, endeavored to combat this opinion, since we are familiar with abundant examples to the contrary. We have just received a letter from Mr. THOMAS, so well known as a horticultural writer, from which we take the liberty of presenting some further evidence on this subject.]

I furnish, for the Horticulturist, a few facts, relative to the condition of the WHITE DOYENNE or Virgalieu pear, in western New-York. Having been familiar with this pear for more than twenty-five years, and with its uniform excellence, health and productiveness, I had never taken the trouble to remember any particular facts upon the subject; supposing that, however worthless it might prove in some localities, its vigor and fruitfulness in most places would never be questioned. I have, therefore, been compelled to apply to some of my friends for additional facts of a tangible nature, to demonstrate what I had before taken for granted.

So far as my own experience extends, I may state that, during many years past, this pear has generally been regarded as *incomparably the best*, for all qualities taken together, throughout central and western New-York. During my business of raising trees for dissemination, I have had more inquiries for this variety than for all others put together. Many of the most enterprising cultivators are planting large orchards, when they can obtain them from the nurseries, which are inadequate to supply the increasing demands. The old bearing trees with which I have been familiar, have regularly produced several bushels annually, and I have never seen a single specimen that did not possess the fine rich flavor, and delicious melting qualities, so conspicuous in this excellent variety.

A few particular instances, taken very much at random, may serve to exhibit definitely the productiveness of the tree. P. BARRY, of Rochester, informs me, on the authority of H. N. LANGWORTHY, that a tree, measuring about eight inches in diameter, produced annually *five* to *seven* bushels of fruit, which sold for $2.50 to $3 per bushel. He also states that H. COLBY, near that city, has a tree upwards of twenty years old, which produces annually (not under the most favorable circumstances,) two to three barrels of fruit, which he usually sells for about $8 per barrel.

OLIVER PHELPS, of Canandaigua, states that a tree upon his grounds, which was budded twenty years ago, has for the last six or eight years borne from *four* to *seven* bushels of uniformly fair and good sized fruit. CHARLES SEYMOUR, of the same village, informs that he has four bearing trees, one of them forty years old, the others twenty-five and fifteen years old; and that, although he is not in the practice of *measuring* the crop, "they are uniformly heavily loaded with fruit, and seldom fail to be large and perfectly fair." RALPH CHAPIN, also of that village, has a tree, at least twenty-five years old, in good bearing condition, which, for the last eight years, has borne from *three* to *seven* bushels annually. A tree, belonging to one of my near neighbors, usually produces several bushels yearly; the heaviest crop it has borne being *eleven bushels*. I have given these instances just as they came to hand, without selecting the most remarkable merely; and I could easily increase the number ten fold. Of some of the finest trees which I noticed the past season, I have had no opportunity of ascertaining the products. In most instances, the trees have grown in soil of

medium fertility, and with little or no cultivation. It is scarcely necessary to add, that the highly respectable individuals who have kindly furnished me statements, are most of them thoroughly conversant with our finest varieties, and that there cannot be any doubt that the trees they possess are the veritable WHITE DOYENNE, almost universally known in western New-York as the "Virgalieu." Nearly all agree in the opinion, that it is remarkably free from attacks of the blight.

The lowest price I have heard of, is $1.50 per bushel upon the tree. Ten dollars per barrel in New-York city, has been common for some years past. Judge Phelps writes, in addition to the facts already quoted,—"I have been credibly informed by persons dealing in them, that they have sold in Albany and New-York from $10 to $12 per barrel, of two and a half bushels. I saw them sold in October, 1843, in Fulton market, New-York, by the peck, at the rate of $6 per bushel." P. Barry also states,—"The pedlers of our city collect them from every part of the country within fifty or sixty miles, ripen them gradually in their houses, and sell them during October and November at two to six cents each." A. THORP, of Syracuse, informs me that at that place, where this pear flourishes admirably, the usual price is $3 per bushel.

In answer to an inquiry, DAVID THOMAS of Aurora, Cayuga county, writes,—"My trees of this variety are among the most hardy and productive. EDWIN B. MORGAN told me yesterday that his had done finely, while all his other pear trees had been injured by blight. Several gentlemen with whom I conversed, laughed scornfully at the idea, that any one should think the Virgalieu was not one of the very best, most productive, and most hardy varieties; it was so very ridiculous! From three trees, at C. C. YOUNG'S, (at Aurora,) $39 were obtained from their fruit in the autumn of 1846." J. J. THOMAS.

Macedon, 2d mo., 12, 1848.

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We may add to the foregoing evidences of the productiveness and value of this finest of old pears, the following: We know very well a large fruit grower and fruit dealer in western New-York, who sent to the New-York market in the past two seasons nearly *two thousand dollars* worth of this variety of fruit,—so beautiful and fair as to command the very highest price.

Instances of the great productiveness of the *Doyenné* are quite common in this state. We received very fine specimens of this pear last autumn, from J. C. HASTINGS, Esq., of Clinton, N. Y., with the following statement:—"This fruit was raised by my father, Dr. SETH HASTINGS, of this place. I give you the following account of the tree which grew it. He sold five and a half barrels from the tree this season, and had from one and a half bushels to three pecks that fell from the tree, and were bruised, rendering them unfit to pick and send off. The five and a half barrels were sold for $9 per barrel at home; and, with what fell from the tree, *he estimated the whole produce of the tree at over* $50. You can depend on this statement as correct in every particular; and I think it would be difficult to find many pear trees more productive."

With this kind of evidence, (and the same is true of the *Brown Beurre* and other old pears,) that, as Mr. THOMAS says truly, may be multiplied in western New-York ten fold, we think it can no longer be said, with any show of correctness, that these fruits are "run out;" that they are in their decadence; that they are unworthy of cultivation.

What, then, is the explanation of the ab-

solute failure of such fine old pears as the Doyenné?—for we grant it is an absolute failure, in many of the long settled parts of the country, and more especially in high sandy soils. What is the secret of the great productiveness, great beauty, and high flavor of this pear in some districts of the country—as in western New-York?

Our answer, a few years ago, to the first question, was defective *soil* and *climate*. Our views are now, with more observation, modified; and we think the difficulty lies almost wholly in the *soil*. In all those places where the Doyenné and other old pears once succeeded, they will succeed again, if the necessary elements, which have been exhausted, are again restored to the soil. These elements are chiefly lime and potash; (perhaps a little iron—say in the form of blacksmith's cinders.) Theory—the analysis of the ashes of the tree proves this; experience, by direct experiment, (see articles on "Renovating Outcasts," in previous pages,) has also demonstrated its truth.

Western and central New-York—what is known especially as the great wheat growing district—are remarkable for their *limestone soils*. It is there, the apple and the pear thrive so admirably; it is there that the "old and degenerate varieties" have all the bloom, freshness and lusciousness of their pristine days.

Will, therefore, our friends, more familiar with old, light and long cultivated soils, instead of heaping the sins of old age on the devoted heads of the "outcasts," give them plentiful dressings of lime and ashes, and bring them back to the paths of fruitfulness and honor? Ed.

SPECIAL MANURES FOR FRUIT TREES.

We find an interest in *special manures* for fruit trees, springing up in all parts of the country. The following extract from a letter received lately, is only one from among many of similar character, which have come to us, all asking for more detailed instruction:

Washington City, Jan. 22d, 1848.

Dear Sir:—The information contained in the leading article of your Horticulturist for this month, (January) is worth ten years subscription to that work, to any person that has an apple orchard. Since reading it, I have, for my own satisfaction, made inquiries with regard to apple trees, of sundry gentlemen residing in the western country, all of whom agree in remarking that *apples are invariably the best and most abundant in limestone portions* of that country. Can you not, sir, in your next number, (or at farthest, in the March number, give to new beginners, like myself, some inkling as to the *quantity* of the requisite materials to be applied to apple and pear trees, and to grape vines.

Two and a half years ago I purchased some land, one and a quarter miles from, and in full view of the capitol of the United States. There was upon it, when I purchased, a small orchard of peach and apple trees. The soil is, I think, sufficiently rich. The peach trees, now ten years old, are thrifty, and bear large quantities of fair and fine flavored fruit. The apple trees bear scarcely at all, and the fruit they produce is small and worthless. The trees grow very well.

Very respectfully and truly yours,

Dan. Gold.

A. J. Downing, Esq.

For old apple orchards, upon soil deficient in lime, we would recommend a top-dressing of lime—for the first time—of 200 bushels to the acre. This will, usually, if the land is in good condition, bring the trees into good bearing condition again. In some soils, the effects will be immediate, and in others it will require one or two seasons for the lime to produce its effect.*

For middle sized bearing trees, a *peck* of air-slaked lime to each tree, is sufficient. It is, perhaps, best applied in the autumn, but it will answer very well in the spring. Scatter it evenly over the surface of the ground, as far as the roots extend. It may be ploughed or hoed under slightly, or left upon the surface, as it will find its way downwards in the soil.

To keep an apple orchard in the *fruit-bearing condition*, in a soil not calcareous, and not naturally congenial to the tree, it should be dressed with lime, and with ashes, every alternate autumn, and manured every other spring. The same quantity of spent ashes as of lime, may be used for each tree.

For the pear tree, we prefer the following compost. Take a wagon load of peat, or black, swamp earth—dissolve 20 lbs. of potash in water, and water the peat thoroughly with the liquid. Let it lie a couple of days, and it is fit for use. Or, for the same quantity of peat, use one-third of a load of leached wood ashes, (or ten bushels of fresh ashes,) mixing the whole, and letting it lie a fortnight before using it. Give each middle sized bearing pear tree, a *bushel* of this compost annually; a newly planted young tree, half a peck, and others in this proportion. If this compost is applied in the spring, the trees may also have a top-dressing of *bone dust*, if easily obtained, in the autumn, at the rate of half a peck to a tree.*

The same compost, and the same quantities, will answer admirably for the grape vine. But as the grape is a strong-feeder, and likes more lime than the pear, we would give it, besides an autumnal coat of lime, at the rate of from 50 to 100 bushels to the acre, applied along with any manure or compost most easily obtained.

For the plum tree, in light soils, (there is little or no difficulty in growing it in clay soils,) we would recommend a compost, made as follows: To two wagon loads of strong loam, or yellow clay, add a bushel of cheap salt and four bushels of lime. Mix the whole thoroughly; suffering it to lie at least a fortnight. Apply this as a *top layer* or *top dressing* to the soil directly under plum trees, (spreading it over the surface as far as the branches extend,) at the rate of *two bushels* to a middle sized bearing tree, or half a peck to a young, newly planted tree.

As a general compost for fruit trees, we repeat, that nothing is equal to that formed of *ashes and peat;* [for directions, see page 384.] These materials are easily obtained in all parts of the country, and they contain the elements most essential in the organic and inorganic structure of fruit trees. Where peat is not at hand, use wood ashes alone, at the rate of half a bushel of leached ashes to each middle sized bearing fruit tree. But as ashes furnish only the mineral or inorganic elements of food, the usual supply of ordinary manure must not be withheld, unless the soil is already sufficiently rich.

* Oyster-shell lime is the very best—some others contain too much magnesia—but, perhaps, only a few.

* All fruit trees are much benefitted by *phosphate of lime* (i. e. bone dust;) but the *pear* especially. Where bone dust cannot be had, bones themselves may be dug in about the roots, and allowed to decompose gradually. Four fifths of all the bones from the kitchen are thrown away, in the country. If these were saved, and put at the bottom of the holes, when planting pear trees, they would furnish a most enduring supply of *phosphate* to the roots.

Our readers will not consider these hints as scientific formulas for manuring these several fruit trees. They are only rough recipes for most easily making composts, to supply the elements which science has demonstrated to be most essential to the growth, health and productiveness of some of our leading fruits. We give them, to enable those who, like our correspondent, are beginners, to feed their orchards and fruit gardens with appropriate food, without the danger of destroying their trees. To give positive directions for *special manures*, it would be necessary to have an analysis of each particular tree, as well as each particular soil, on which it is to be grown. But since we now know what their general organization requires, we can furnish to soils naturally deficient the wanting elements. The trees themselves,—this being done, will speedily take up the necessary food and assimilate it; giving us back a reward in healthy growth, and abundant and excellent crops.

REVIEW.

THE FLOWERS PERSONIFIED—*being a translation of "Les Fleurs Animées;" by* N. CLEVELAND, Esq. Illustrated with steel engravings, beautifully coloured. (Nos. 1 to 14, 8vo. Price 25 cents each.) New-York: published by R. Martin, 170 Broadway. 1847.

HERE is one of the prettiest fancies, most charmingly carried out, that ever entered the imagination of a writer of tasteful and entertaining books.

The ancients have long ago told us, that on certain great occasions, mortals were changed by the gods into flowers; but it has been reserved for one of the most brilliant and witty of modern French writers—M. KARR, to write the history of the new *myths*, to tell us how the flowers have been transformed into mortals, and the whole story of their joys and sorrows.

We cannot better unravel this piquant idea, or convey to our readers a notion of the delicate and graceful style in which the work is written, than by quoting the following introductory remarks:

"Learned antiquaries have ascertained and plainly described the spot where the earthly paradise was situated. We know with what trees those celestial grounds were planted, and what countries adjoined them on the north, the south, the east, and the west. Thanks to these researches, the topography of Eden would appear to advantage in the charts of the Land Registry, or among the files of the Recorder of Deeds.

"No philosopher has busied himself in determining exactly the geographical site of the place occupied by the Flower Fairy. We are left, in this respect to mere conjecture. Some place it in the kingdom of Cashmere; others say it is southeast from Delhi. While some think it is on the table land of the Himalaya, others suppose it to be situated in the centre of the island of Java; in the midst of some vast forest, which, by its labarynthine and prolific vegetation, protects it from unseasonable visits, and from the research of exploring travellers.

"We alone are acquainted with the route to the Flower Land; but a solemn oath forbids us to reveal it. The newspapers would get there as soon as we could; and God only knows to what condition they would soon bring that unhappy country, which as yet has experienced no revolution, but the one which we are about to describe.

"If the reader would accompany us thither, he must suffer his eyes to be bandaged. We must also examine his pockets; lest, like Tom Thumb, he scatter seeds on his way, to identify his path. Now we have commenced our journey, and the bandage may drop as soon as we arrive.

"Do you not feel around your brows a softer and sweeter air than you ever breathed before? Do you not perceive, in spite of the obscurity which veils your sight, a light more brilliant, and penetrating, and delightful, even than that which shines on your native land? It is because our journey is accomplished. We are now in the domains of the Flower Fairy.

"Here is a garden where the productions of every zone and clime are united, and live together in friendly brotherhood. The brilliant tropical flower is seen by the side of the violet, the aloe near the periwinkle. Palm trees spread their fan-like leaves above a grove of acacias, whose white flowers are faintly tinged with red. Jasmines and pomegranates mingle their silver stars and their crimson glow. The rose, the pink, the lily, and a thousand flowers which arrest the eye, but which we need not name here, mingle in harmonious groups, or form beautiful arabesques. All these flowers live, breathe, and converse, as they interchange odors.

"Round the feet of the trees, shrubs, and plants, countless little rills flow, wildly meandering. The water runs over diamonds, whose light flickers and plays, as it comes reflected with tints of gold, of azure, and of opal. Here butterflies of every shape and hue, shun and chase each other in their mingled flight. Now they float — now wheel — now alight — and now rise, with wings of amethyst, of onyx, of turquoise, and of sapphire. There is not a bird in the garden; yet you seem to be enveloped by a universal harmony, as in one of those concerts which we hear in our dreams; and this is the breeze which sighs, murmurs, plays, and sings some melody to every flower.

"The palace of the fairy is not unworthy of this wondrous place. A genius, who is her friend, has collected those threads of silver and of gold, which, in the mornings of early spring, float from plant to plant. These he has braided, interwoven, and formed into graceful festoons. The whole palace is composed of this charming filagree. Rose leaves form the roof, while the blue bird-weed fills the interstices of the light trellis, which extends like a curtain round the fairy, who, indeed, is seldom at home: occupied, as she is, in visiting her flowers, and watching their happiness.

"Does any one think that a flower can never be unhappy? It would seem to be impossible; and yet nothing is more certain. One fairy found this by her own experience.

"One fine spring evening, as the Flower Fairy was gently rocking in her hammock of interwoven convolvuli, idly thinking of these other mysterious flowers, which we call stars, suddenly she thought she heard a distant rustling—a confused noise. 'It is the sylphs,' thought she, 'who come to woo the flowers;' and she relapsed into her revery. But soon the sounds became louder, and the golden sand resounded under steps more and more distinct. The fairy sat erect, and beheld approaching a long succession of flowers. They were of all ages, and of every rank. Full-blown Roses, already on their decline; these walked surrounded by their young families of buds. All distinctions were overlooked. The aristocratic Tulip gave her arm to the vulgar and plebeian Pink. The Geranium, proud as a financier, walked side by side with the

tender Anemone; and the haughty Amaryllis listened, without much disdain, to the rather vulgar conversation of the Bladder-nut tree. As it often happens in well arranged societies, at times of great emergency, a forced reconciliation had taken place among the flowers.

"Lilies, with their brows encircled by butterflies, and Bellflowers, with glow-worms shining like living lanthorns among their petals, lighted the procession; which was brought up, in a somewhat disorderly manner by a careless troop of Daisies.

"The procession drew up in good order before the palace of the astonished fairy, and an eloquent Hellebore, stepping from the ranks, thus addressed her:

"'Your Majesty—

"'The flowers here present, beg you to accept their homage, and to lend a favorable ear to their humble complaint. For thousands of years we have supplied mankind with their themes of comparison; we alone have given them all their metaphors; indeed, without us, poetry could not exist. Men lend to us their virtues and their vices; their good and their bad qualities; and it is time that we should have some experience of what these are. We are tired of this flower-life. We wish for permission to assume the human form, and to judge, for ourselves, whether that which they say above, of our character, is agreeable to truth.'

"A murmur of approbation followed this speech. The fairy could not believe the testimony of her own eyes and ears.

"'What,' said she, 'do you wish to change your existence, so like that of the gods, for the miserable life which men lead? What is there wanting to make you happy? Have you not for your adornment diamonds of dew? — conversations with the zephyrs for your entertainment? — and the kisses of butterflies to make you dream of love?'

"'The dews make me take cold,' said, with a yawn, the Belle de Nuit.

"'The songs of the Zephyr tire me to death,' said a Rose. 'He has repeated the same thing for these thousand years. The poets of an academy must surely be more amusing.'

"'What care I,' murmured a sentimental Periwinkle, 'for the caresses of the butterfly, since he never participates in the enjoyment? The Butterfly is the very symbol of selfishness. He would not know his own mother; and his children, in their turn, would not recognize him. How can he have learned anything of love? He has neither a past nor a future; he remembers nothing, and is himself forgotten. Men alone know how to love.'

"The fairy turned upon the Periwinkle a mournful look, which seemed to say—'And *thou*, too,!' She felt that her efforts to put down the rebellion would be unavailing; still, she resolved to make one more attempt.

"'Once upon the earth,' said she to her revolted subjects, 'how do you intend to live?'

"'I shall be an author,' said the Wild Rose.'

"'And I a shepherdess,' added the Corn-poppy.

"'I shall come out as a marriage-maker, —I as a schoolmaster,—I as a teacher of the piano,—I as a trinket vender,— and I as a fortune teller,' exclaimed, altogether, the Orange flower, the Thistle, the Hydrangea, the Iris, and the Daisy.

"The Larkspur talked of his debut at the opera; and the Rose vowed that when she should have become a duchess, she would have the satisfaction of crowning *rosières** without number.

"Many flowers were there which had al-

* Young maidens who have won the prize of goodness.

ready lived, and which declared that life among men was very comfortable and agreeable. Narcissus and Adonis had been the secret instigators of this revolt; especially Narcissus, who longed to know how a beautiful youth would look in a Venetian mirror.

"The Flower Fairy remained for a while plunged in thought. She then addressed the rebels in a sad, but decided voice:

"'Go, deluded flowers; let it be as you propose. Ascend upon the earth, and try human life. Ere long you will come back to me.'

"The history of these flowers, which were changed to women, you will find in this volume. We have collected these adventures wherever we could find them; traversing all lands, and questioning all classes of people, but keeping no record of dates or epochs. The flowers have lived, to a certain extent, everywhere. You may have been acquainted with some of them, and not suspected it. It is very unfortunate that they have not thought fit to make more disclosures, or to write their own memoirs. This would have relieved us from much trouble—would have saved us many, many steps, and, more than all, many mistakes.

"In concluding this introduction, we must inform you that the fairy did not grant the desired permission, without silently resolving that she would be revenged. The next morning her garden was a desert. One flower alone remained—the solitary Heath-plant—which blooms perpetually.

"Symbol of undying love! she well knew that for her there was no place on earth."

The fertile invention of GRANDVILLE has, in the illustration, presented the flowers embodied in female guise with singular felicity of *form* and *expression*. And the little stories of their lives—some unhappy because they preserved faithfully their original characters, and others because they endeavored to change them—is full of a delicate and touching moral. To such of our fair readers as do not already possess this ingenious and agreeable work, we beg leave to recommend it as one of the most attractive literary novelties of the season.

FOREIGN NOTICES.

GARDENING IN SWEDEN.—In the neighborhood of Stockholm, the grounds attached to the Royal Academy are several of them very fine, and all laid open to the public, and places of much resort on Sundays and holidays. Those I have seen are Drottningsholm, the largest, about five or six miles from the town; and, in the immediate vicinity, Rosendal, Haga, Carlsberg, now the Military Academy; and Uriesdal, now the Invalid Hospital. All have the advantage of lake scenery, and the drive round them, winding amongst wooded rocks, rich corn-fields and meadows, country seats and gardens, is one of the most enjoyable I know. In making this tour, we visited the horticultural establishments here, and, first, the garden of the Horticultural Society, situated partly within the town, in the northern suburb. It contains eight or ten acres, and is under the management of Mr. Müller, the head gardener, now absent. There is a considerable collection here, but many of the things rather too botanical, and from the way in which it is kept, it does not look as if so much importance were attached to it as one would have thought. The Society numbers 2000 members, at an annual subscription of three dollars banco (about 5s). Three exhibitions are held in May, July, and August, which are said to be very well attended, and where medals are awarded as prizes, and, what is not very horticultural, the garden is used occasionally on summer evenings for those out-of-door concerts, which the Swedes as well as the Germans are so fond of. A much better kept and more interesting garden is that of the Bergian Gardener's School, as it is called, under the management of Mr. Lundström, and the superintendence of the Academy of Sciences. This establishment was founded originally by the botanist and traveller Bergius, and attached to the Academy of Sciences as a school of instruction for gardeners. The arrangement now made is that the academy lets the ground (for a considerable rent) to Mr. Lundström, who is allowed to cultivate it as a nursery garden

under certain restrictions and supervision as to variety of cultivation, order, and neatness, &c., and who undertakes to instruct in practical gardening a certain number of pupils (usually about a dozen,) to whom the academy has lectures delivered in a building erected for the purpose, containing also a residence for the lecturer. Mr. Lundström, as gardener, has also a very agreeable residence in the garden. The present lecturer and superintendent, on the part of the academy, is Professor Wikström. Mr. Lundström is the great nursery and seedsman of Stockholm; has realised a considerable fortune; is a knight of the order of Wasa, and possessor of a landed estate and country seat. The garden (that is to say the part cultivated as a nursery,) contains about seven *tonners*, a measure, I believe, larger than our acre, and is in excellent cultivation, containing a great variety of trees, shrubs, ornamental as well as economical, and kitchen-garden plants all in very neat beds or rows, and all labelled. The establishment is said to turn out very good gardeners.

The Agricultural Academy's experimental garden is also within a couple of miles of Stockholm, and appears to be very well conducted under the immediate management of the gardener, Mr. Stinberg, and the superintendence and inspection of Professor Wahlberg, who, unfortunately for me, is now absent on an excursion in Scania. A considerable variety of corn, as well as of grasses, and other forage roots, &c., are here cultivated in larger or smaller patches, according to the particular object in view. By repeated experiments, and comparative cultivation, the gardener finds the Festuca arundinacea, Schreb. (F. littorea, Wahlenb.) the best of all grasses, at least for all Swedish soils, and certainly a field of it in this garden looked remarkably well—tall-growing, but with a great deal of foliage, and the whole field was very regular and thick, and cattle are said to be very fond of it.

I have, as usual, made inquiries here about potatoes, which are very much cultivated in Sweden. The disease last year made considerable ravages in Scania, where it was as bad as in Denmark; but northward it was much less prevalent, and in this neighborhood I am assured that there was no damage done of any consequence. About Upsala, Professor Fries observed it, and has written a pamphlet on the subject. He, though a mycologist, is entirely on the side of those who consider the fungus as a result, not the cause of the disease. Nothing has as yet appeared of the disease this year in any part of Sweden, as far as I can learn.

On the subject of vegetables, an excellent one much eaten here, but which we never get in England, is the Pois sabre, or Pois sans parchemin, of which the young pods are eaten stewed. They are very sweet, and entirely without any stringiness, even when raw. *For. Cor. Gardeners' Chron.*

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Brazilian Preparation of India-Rubber.—At 10 o'clock we stopped at an Anatto plantation, awaiting the tide, and here we saw the manufacture of rubber. The man of the house returned from the forest about noon, bringing in nearly two gallons of milk, which he had been engaged since daylight in collecting from 120 trees that had been tapped upon the previous morning. This quantity of milk, he said, would suffice for 10 pair of shoes, and when he himself attended to the trees he could collect the same quantity every morning for several months. But his girls could only collect from 70 trees. The Seringa trees do not usually grow thickly, and such a number may require a circuit of several miles. In making the shoes, two girls were the artistes, in a little thatched hut which had no opening but the door. From an inverted water-jar, the bottom of which had been broken out for the purpose, issued a column of dense white smoke, from the burning of a species of Palm-nut, and which so filled the hut that we could scarcely see the inmates. The lasts used were of wood exported from the United States, and were smeared with clay to prevent adhesion. In the leg of each was a long stick serving as a handle. The last was dipped into the milk and immediately held over the smoke, which, without much discolouring, dried the surface at once. It was then re-dipped, and the process was repeated a dozen times until the shoe was of sufficient thickness, care being taken to give a greater number of coatings to the bottom. The whole operation, from the smearing of the last to placing the finished shoe in the sun, required less than five minutes. The shoe was now of a slightly more yellowish hue than the liquid milk, but in the course of a few hours it became of a reddish brown. After an exposure of 24 hours, it is figured as we see upon the imported shoes. This is done by the girls with small sticks of hard wood, or the needle-like spines of some of the Palms. Stamping has been tried, but without success. The shoe is now cut from the last and is ready for sale, bringing a price of from ten to fifteen vintens, or cents, per pair. It is a long time before they assume the black hue. Brought to the city, they are assorted, the best being laid aside for exportation as shoes, the others as waste rubber. The proper designation for this latter, in which are included bottles, sheets, and any other form excepting selected shoes, is *borácha*, and this is shipped in bulk. There are a number of persons in the city who make a business of filling shoes with rice chaff and hay previous to their being packed in boxes. They are generally fashioned into better shape by being stretched upon lasts after they arrive at their final destination. By far the greater part of the rubber exported from Pará goes to the United States, the European consumption being comparatively very small. *Voyage up the Amazon.*

.....

The Seven Ash Trees of Tewin.—Upwards of 50,000 persons have, during the last five years, visited the tomb of Lady Ann Grimston, in the churchyard of Tewin, Hertfordshire, which displays one of the most extraordinary freaks in which it is proverbial that Nature delights. The masonry of the tomb—once firmly set and bound together with iron pins—is now disjointed and displaced, not by time or decay, but by the irrepressible growth of trees never planted by human hands. The appearance which the tomb presents is most singular. Within, and interlacing the iron railing surrounding the tomb, are seven ash trees connected at the root, and three sycamores also connected at the root.

These trees, in their gradual but unceasing daily growth, for more than a century, have heaved up the stonework of the tomb, forcing it outward for some distance, and entwined round the iron railings, which, in some places, are so completely embedded in trunks of the trees that they seem to form part of them. The trees, at their base, also pass through and clasp the stone-work, as though it were a mass of earth. It is conjectured—and on no other supposition can these marvellous appearances be accounted for—that, at a period antecedent to the erection of the tomb, the seeds of the now full grown trees must have been deposited in the vault beneath; and that, there germinating, they have since forced their way towards the light, silently and gradually displacing the masonry above; and then embracing and supporting the tomb they had disturbed with their spreading branches. The superstitious credulity of the neighboring peasantry of the last generation was naturally excited by appearances so unusual, and they have handed down a legend to their sons, in which it is sought to account for the phenomenon. The story is a simple one:—It is said that Lady Anne was an unbeliever, and that she was wont to say that, "if the Sacred Book was true, seven ash trees would grow out of her tomb." The result evidently (as in many similar cases) gave rise to the legend. In these days, however, we require no such solution of appearances, which, however unusual, we are content to regard as beautiful illustrations of natural laws. The following inscription is still legible on the tomb: "Here lyeth interred the body of the Right Hon. Lady Ann Grimston, wife of Sir Samuel Grimston, Bart., of Gorhambury, Herts, daughter of the late Right Hon. Earl of Thanet, who departed this life Nov. 22, 1713, in the 60th year of her age." *Morning Post.*

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A Simple, Cheap and Effectual Mode of keeping away Birds from Fruits, Seeds, &c.—Take a stick, a little bent at top, get two triangular bits of tin, bore a hole in the narrow end of each, and suspend them with cord or worsted, &c.; fix them so that they touch each other at the lower part. If the stick is not too stiff, so much the better; it is very seldom they are still; they keep up a perpetual tinkling, being so light that even the stillest air can move them. The plan is not new, but I have never seen it mentioned in print. *R. A. C. K. Gardeners' Chronicle.*

DOMESTIC NOTICES.

DESIGN FOR A RURAL CHURCH.

[SEE FRONTISPIECE.]

We have no intention, at the present moment, of entering upon the subject of church architecture. It requires volumes, and is quite too vast and too elaborate to be treated of in any superficial way. We may, however, remark in passing, how surprisingly the church architecture of our cities has been improved within the last ten years. Improved, indeed, seems scarcely the word—created, would express the fact more fully. New-York and Brooklyn are especially rich in new churches, built of the finest marble or hewn stone, and designed, many of them, in a noble and pure style.

Our *rural churches* are, however, in most parts of the country, sadly behind in taste and meritorious design. Heavy, rectangular wooden buildings, either ill proportioned and unmeaning, or crowned with steeples or towers, exhibiting the oddest possible combination of architectural orders, deform a great part of the middle and eastern states.

This is to be regretted. Certainly there is nothing built by man's hands, which, if properly designed, and properly kept, confers so much of dignity, poetry and interest on a rural landscape, as a beautiful country church—of sober, quiet colour—embosomed in trees, and speaking volumes at a glance, of the religious feelings, the peaceful and refined habits of the inhabitants around it.

Though we would not confine the architecture of rural churches within narrow limits, we feel very deeply the superiority of the gothic style for such edifices. All its associations, all its history, belong so much more truly to the christian faith, than do those of any other style of building, that the devotional feeling seems to spring up more naturally and easily within its walls than in any other.

The besetting sin of builders of country churches, is that of *copying* the fine churches of towns. This is a great mistake. It is rarely that sufficient means is found in a country congregation to build more than a modest edifice. If, with these limited means, an *imitation* of a town cathedral is attempted, it always proves a melancholy failure. It wants the perfection, the completeness, the richness of the city church; it could not, of course, attain these; it wants the simplicity, greatness, and truthfulness, of a rural church, which it could have attained.

The frontispiece shows a view of an English country church, (which we borrow from the *London News,*) newly erected, in South Milford, Yorkshire. It is only one form from among a great variety, all of the same general style, of what might be called rural church gothic, and of which the English are especially fond. It is of moderate dimensions, the whole outside length being ninety feet: inside, the nave measuring 57 feet long, by 27 feet wide. The interior height is 37 feet. The roof is high-pitched, showing in the interior, the carved open timberwork. The windows are glazed with stained glass. The seats accommodate three hundred persons, (without galleries,) and the cost of the whole building is only £1500, (about $7,500.)

If we contrast the beautiful and harmonious effect, so entirely in keeping with the country, of this species of rural church, and the very moderate price at which it is produced, with the unsatisfactory and incongruous effect of many of our wooden Greek temple houses of worship, every where to be seen, costing two or three thousand dollars more, we

thiuk it is not difficult to say which style ought to be generally preferred.

Stone, it appears to us, when at all to be obtained, ought always to be the material of a church. It has an appearance of permanence, and it permits those delightful accompaniments, the ivy and other vines, which at once partially conceal and greatly heighten the beauty of a rural church; while they bring it into keeping with the verdure and freshness of the whole country around.

Three or four churches, in this simple, rural gothic mode, have been built on the Hudson, and in Massachusetts, within the last two years, and have given great satisfaction. We hope to see them become more frequent in all parts of the country.

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ROSES WHICH ARE ROSES.

BY R. BUIST, PHILADELPHIA.

The favorite roses of the day are those which are *ever-blooming*. No garden is too small, no pleasure grounds are too large, to be able to dispense with ever-blooming roses—abounding, as they now do, with the greatest variety of colors, the most perfect floral forms, and the most exquisite odors.

Hundreds, almost thousands, of new varieties have been produced within the last ten years, especially in France, where whole nurseries are devoted to the culture of roses. Still it must be confessed that a great many of those sent out under new names, by one cultivator, are very slightly different from others previously originated by another, and a collector who orders hundreds of sorts, under new and striking names, is disappointed in finding so few really distinct—so very few really of the first character.

It is not an easy matter, even to the most experienced cultivator, to make *small selections*, comprising "gems of the first water." But still a good deal may be accomplished, and a comparison of different opinions will gradually establish all points. Since it is part of the province of our journal to gather and disseminate this knowledge, most usefully the uninitiated, we have asked Mr. BUIST, one of the most accomplished florists in America, to give us his opinion, which he has obligingly done in the following letter.—ED.

DEAR SIR:—In yours of the 20th ult., you request me to furnish you with the names of half a dozen each of the best *Bengal, Tea, Bourbon, and Hybrid Perpetual Roses*. The following is the result, after carefully considering colour, habit, perpetuity of bloom, and certainty of perfection, admitting that being limited to so few of each family, that as *many more* might be selected of *equal merit*.

I. BENGAL—6 best sorts.

ARCH DUC CHARLES, color, *changeable crimson*.
CRAMIOSE SUPERIEUR, *or Agrippina*, } *bright crimson*.
LADY WARRENDER, *pure white*.
MADAM BREON, *rose*.
VESUVIUS, *dark crimson*.
VIRGINALE, *blush*.

II. TEA—6 best sorts.

ADAM, *pale rose*.
DEVONIENSIS, *creamy blush*.
MADAM BRAVY, *pale blush*.
MADAM DESPREY, *pure white*.
TRIOMPHE OF LUXEMBURG, *changeable salmon or rose*.
VICOMTESSE DECAGES, *changeable pale salmon*.

III. BOURBON—6 best sorts.

DUPETIT THOUARS, *changeable crimson*.
HENRY CLAY (BOLL'S) *bright red*.
LEVESON GOWER, *flesh colour*.
MADAM NERARD, *waxy blush*.
SOUCHET, *dark crimson*.
SOUVENIR DE LA MALMAISON, *pale blush*.

HYBRID PERPETUALS.

ARICE, *satiny rose*.
LADY ALICE PEEL, *bright rose*.
LANE, *crimson*.
LA REINE, *lilac rose*.
MADAM DAMEME, *dark crimson*.
YOLANDE D'ARAGON, *blush*.

You will observe that I have not regarded *rarity* or *catalogue celebrity*. Merely rare roses are frequently more beautiful in name than charming in flower; for instance, the *Madame la Princesse Adelaide* is far inferior to the *Devoniensis*. Yours most respectfully, *R. Buist, Philadelphia, Feb.* 17, 1848.

A. J. DOWNING, Esq.

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QUERIES—SELECTION OF FRUIT.—TO THE EDITOR—I have had but little experience in the propagation or cultivation of fruit trees, but am becoming more deeply interested daily. Our section of this county affords but very indifferent apples, and our pears, plums, cherries, peaches, &c., do not deserve the name of *selections*—they are rather *accidents*, and there are but few of such. I have been greatly benefitted and enlightened by the queries which have been put and answered, in the pages of "the Horticulturist," and, if it would not be asking too much, I should be glad to have answers from thyself, or some one or more of thy intelligent correspondents, to the following queries, viz:

1st. In the no. for Dec. 1846, there is an able article on "Root Grafting," by "F. K. PHŒNIX." He speaks of having had no experience in grafting the pear and plum on their own roots, and *boxing*, but says, "I have often root grafted them in the *spring*, and with the best success." How, on bits of roots and planting them out at once in the nursery rows? What are its advantages? And what are the advantages of F. K. P.'s method of splice or tongue grafting and waxing? I have a friend who root-grafts 50,000 apples annually, in the simple cleft-graft manner, and without wax, and with good success, and this is certainly more speedy. (*a*)

2d. In the May number there is an interesting article from ROBERT NELSON, on "autumn grafting and spring budding." In spring budding, should the top of the stock be cut off at the time of the insertion of the bud, or after the bud has fairly started to grow? [Cut off the top at the time of budding.—ED.]

3d. In the number for August there is a very valuable article on "growing quinces," by "An old Orchardist," but he seemed to leave us in the dark relative to his mode of propagating the tree, previously to transplanting to the orchard. Should they be raised from the seed—from cuttings—from seedlings—budded or grafted? If from cuttings, what would be suitable for that purpose?—suckers from

old trees—slips from young ones, or is it necessary to cut them from the current year's growth of bearing trees? What is the after treatment, and how soon will they be fit to transplant? (*b.*)

4th. How is Quince-seed cleaned; and what is the best method of preserving that, and the other leading fruit seeds, during the winter? (*c.*)

5th. Where a nursery soil has a tendency to "bake," is it not better to plant these seeds in the spring, rather than in the autumn? (*d.*)

6th. What are nine of the MOST PROFITABLE apples for MARKET culture—three each, for the *summer*, *autumn* and *winter* seasons, and having in view hardiness, vigor, and productiveness?

7th. Do. of pears?

8th. Do. of plums, early, medium, late?

9th. Do. of cherries, early, medium, late?

10th. Do. peaches, early, medium, late?

I will not trespass further at present, but subscribe myself, respectfully thine. *J. F. East Fallowfield, Chester co., Pa., Feb.* 10, 1848.

ANSWER.—(*a.*) The advantage of *splice* grafting over the *cleft* mode, is greater certainty of success, since the parts of the stock and scion are brought more perfectly into contact. This is much more apparent in grafting *above ground* than *below*. Indeed, many persons dispense altogether with grafting-wax or clay, when the graft is buried below the surface, though it must be confessed that, if the season is dry, the grafts often fail without it.

(*b.*) Quinces are usually raised from seed, and from cuttings. The apple and pear quince usually produce the same from seed, and perhaps the most vigorous and long lived plants are raised in this way. Cuttings may be made of the previous season's wood, whenever thrifty, healthy shoots can be found. Those taken from upright shoots of the luxuriant young trees, will make the healthiest and best plants. Plant the cuttings in the spring, in a cool, shady, north border, where they will soon strike root, and be ready to transplant the next spring. Cut out the buds that go below the surface, as shown in our work on Fruits, p. 27.

(*c.*) Quince seed is cleaned by allowing the mass of pulp or cores, first to lie for several days together, till it becomes soft, then rubbing it in water and passing the pulpy part through a sieve, leaving the seeds behind. The best mode of preserving that and other fruit seeds through the winter, is in shallow boxes of damp sand, placed in a cool cellar.

(*d.*) Clayey soil, that is liable to "bake," is hardly suitable for raising seedlings, without a plentiful admixture of sand in the soil of the seed beds. If a compost of peat and ashes is used for enriching such soil, it will prove better than common manure, produce less weeds, and keeps the soil light. When seeds are planted in the open seed-beds in autumn, the beds should be covered during winter, with leaves, straw or peat, to prevent the seeds being thrown out by the frost. Spring planting enables you to avoid this, but it requires as much or more care to prepare and plant the seeds in boxes, so that the latter, though by far the most *certain* mode, is only employed by cultivators generally, for the more select kinds of the seeds.

(*d*) It is exceedingly difficult to give such lists. Every state, almost every district, has peculiarities of soil and climate, which make particular sorts valuable there, that are only considered second rate in other localities. Still we will endeavor, knowing something of Chester co. Pa., to give selections of a few PROFITABLE MARKET FRUITS, as follows:—

1st. *Selection of apples.*—Early Harvest, Large Yellow Bough, William's Favorite, (summer;) Porter, Gravenstein, Holland Pippin, (autumn;) Rhode Island Greening, Yellow Belle-flower, Roxbury Russet, (winter.)

2d. *Selection of Pears.*—Bartlett, Dearborn's seedling, Andrews, (early;) Washington, Heathcot, Louise Bonne of Jersey, (medium;) Van Mon's Leon le Clerc, Vicar of Winkfield, D'Aremberg, (late.)

3d. *Selection of Plums.*—Cherry, True Peach, Prince's Yellow Gage, (early;) Jefferson, Smith's Orleans, Lombard, (medium;) Coe's Golden Drop, Autumn gage, Coe's Late Red, (late.)

4th. *Selection of Cherries.*—Baumann's May, May Duke, Black Tartarian, (early;) Downton, Bigarreau, Black Eagle, (medium;) Downer's late, Plumstone Morello, Sweet Moutmorency, (late.)

5th. *Selection of Peaches.*—True Early York, Crawford's Early, Yellow Rareripe, (early;) George IV, Bellegarde, Morris' Red Rareripe, (medium;) Crawford's Late, Rodman's Cling, Heath Cling, (late.)

.....

EXTREME COLD DAY AT THE NORTH.—Dear Sir: Thus far this winter, we have had very little snow, with unusually mild weather, except on the morning of the 11th January, when our thermometers ranged from 21 to 24 degrees below zero. Of course, the fruit buds of the peach, apricot, and other tender fruits, are killed. To show that severe cold is the cause of the injury, I have examined (since the hard frost) some branches, trimmed from our peach trees about the middle of November, and lying under the trees, the buds of which were sound, having been protected by about four inches of snow—the buds on the trees from which they were cut are all dead. Our nurserymen complain that their *Peach plum* and *Columbia plum trees* are badly frost-bitten; also some kinds of pear—*bartlett, Columbia, Hericart, &c.* One of them tells me that his oldest plantation of pears, *which do not receive the sun in winter till after the middle of the day*, have never been frost-bitten, while those in his newer plantation, which have the morning sun, were much injured last winter as well as this. He thinks sudden thawing is the cause of the blight in his trees. Yours truly, *Charles H. Tomlinson. Schenectady, 21st January*, 1848.

[See a very interesting article, by Mr. BARTLETT, in our last vol. (p. 549) on the effects of low temperature on vegetation. Mr. B. states that the blossom buds of the peach are killed when the mercury in Fahrenheit's thermometer falls to 14° below zero. —ED.]

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OHIO NURSERYMEN AND FRUIT GROWERS' CONVENTION.—We have received an interesting pamphlet, of 46 pages, illustrated with several outlines of fruits, being the proceedings of the convention, held at Columbus, O., last September, and now just published. We shall notice it more fully in our next.

RULES OF AMERICAN POMOLOGY.—It is gratifying to learn that these rules are being adopted by the leading horticultural societies over the whole Union. They cannot but be most essentially beneficial in regulating the nomenclature of fruits, determining the real merits of new varieties, and establishing uniformity in names. The following societies have already adopted these rules:—The HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS, of PENNSYLVANIA, of CINCINNATI, of NEW HAVEN, of ST. LOUIS, the ALBANY AND RENSSELAER SOCIETY, and the NEW HAVEN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

We have also just received a note from the Secretary of the NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, informing us that that society had adopted substantially the same rules, omitting the last article—rendered unnecessary by the fact that the society, in March, 1847, passed a special rule, making our work on *Fruit Trees*, the *standard authority* of the society.

As there were several errors in the copy of those rules first published, we reprint them again, from a corrected copy, furnished us by the committee of the MASS. SOCIETY, in order that other societies disposed to adopt them hereafter, may have them in a correct form. [Want of room compels the printer to postpone the rules 'till next month.]

.....

"GEN. HAND PLUM."—Why is this plum so little cultivated? It certainly is meritorious. It has fruited in our town several seasons—is a fair, *large* yellow plum, and, to us, appears superior to many others cultivated. Can it be an old variety, deserving of cultivation, and yet passed by? I see it noticed in only one printed catalogue, out of a dozen, in my possession, (PRINCE'S, and there priced 75 cents.) I believe it is of American origin. It was introduced into our county by Mr. SAM'L CARPENTER, nurseryman, who received it through Dr. HAND, of Pennsylvania, I believe. I received a tree of it, also, from Hon. JAS. MATTHEWS. I can furnish a few scions of it if desired.

Permit me to bring to your knowledge, a *nectarine*, which was first brought to my notice by Hon. James Matthews, of Coshocton, O., from whom I received a tree in bud, last spring. Mr. Matthews, in a communication to me, says, "Baker's seedling," a nectarine, which bore fruit in 1847 for the first time, is an early and a splendid fruit, supposed to have come from the seed of a peach planted by Mr. BAKER. I hope Mr. M. or Mr. Humrickhouse will furnish you with a correct description of the fruit. Respectfully yours, &c. *A. Fahnestock. Lancaster, Ohio, Jan.* 21, 1848.

[We have procured the "Gen. Hand plum," twice from Maryland, of Messrs. CORSE & SINCLAIR, Baltimore, who have cultivated it for some time, but we have never yet seen it in fruit. Messrs. C. & S. were unable to give us its history, and it is little known generally, though it has a high reputation in Maryland. Will our correspondent send us specimens of the fruit and leaves the ensuing season? —ED.]

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FIRE-BLIGHT AT CINCINNATI.—Your valuable magazine for this month, is just come to hand. In it, your correspondent, Dr. WENDELL, of Albany, in taking exceptions to some of my views of the causes of the fire-blight in the pear tree, remarks, "I only wish, at present, to propound a question or two, for response from yourself and Mr. Ernst. Only for this, and some errors into which I think Dr. Harris has been led, in the application of his *Insect theory*, I should not again presume on your patience. In reply to Dr. Wendell, "if frozen or scalded sap causes this form of blight, why is it, that, as a general rule, bearing trees, or those of bearing age, are the only ones attacked?" I have only to point to his own experience, in the case of the *Bergamot d'Esperin*, and the *Colmar d'Aremburgh*, which were destroyed the next year after budding, as proof against this idea. And that my exertions for twenty years, have not enabled me to fruit more than one variety to eight or ten, from this cause. It is a very common thing for seedling pear trees, grafts and buds, of *the same year*, to be cut down with the blight. I presume that this is not the effect of a previous winter's frost, or the effect of Dr. HARRIS' *Scolytus Pyri*.

I make no objection to Dr. HARRIS' establishing the fact, if it be one, that the *Scolytus Pyri* does injuriously affect, and perhaps destroy the pear trees. But I object to calling its ravages the FIRE BLIGHT. I am not aware that any one entertains the idea, (I certainly do not,) or "supposes that the female *Scolytus Pyri*, by anticipation, deposites her eggs only on those limbs which are to become affected by fire-blight, or frozen sap blight." My knowledge on these subjects being purely the result of *practical observation*, and not *scientific research*, it is probable that I may have fallen into an error, as to the Scolytus Pyri, or its habits. One thing, however, I cannot be much mistaken in; that of a strong similarity in vegetable and animal substances to attract insects, when in a state of corruption, or at death, and that it hence is not safe to charge on all such as may be found there, the sin of the mischief.

The Dr. says, "Having no *theory* to maintain, and no *speculations* to offer but such as are founded on fact, I propose to show that insect blight is a disease distinct from fire blight and frozen sap blight." I wish the Dr. had been more distinct and clear on this point. The difficulty is to define where the insect blight ends, and the others may justly be charged with the *mischief*.

"How can we reason but from what we know." He further remarks, "It should be remembered that the Scolytus Pyri requires a year, or thereabouts, to complete its transformation," and thinks "it may not be generally known that apple, apricot and plum trees are attacked by the Scolytus Pyri." Here in the west, we find not only the apple, apricot and plum trees, but the quince, and at times other trees are attacked by something that bears a strong resemblance to some of the forms of the blights I have seen in the pear tree. This, however, never proves fatal to more than the ends or a portion of the branch in which it appears. I am inclined to believe this may be the effects of the Scolytus Pyri—that from this cause it has been confounded with the fire blight, and that here is the true dividing ridge. I do not wish to be understood as asserting the fact, but I suggest it for inquiry. And also, if this may not be the extent of its mischievous

operations on the pear tree. Those interested in this inquiry will unite with me in thanking the Dr. for this intelligent description of the Scolytus Pyri's operations, and the time it is in perfecting. It fixes a point from which future investigations can and will be made. It, too, yields the long disputed point that there are other causes of malignant blight. And as it "requires a year, or thereabouts, to complete its transformation," its work of destruction is, of course, proportionally slow, and not so instantaneous as the unscientific inquirers had been led to believe. Not meaning to tire your patience, or again advert to the subject, unless I can reason from what I know. I remain very respectfully, yours, *A. H. Ernst. Cincinnati, O., Feb. 11th*, 1848.

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Albany and Rensselaer Horticultural Society.—The Society met at the agricultural rooms, Albany, Feb. 11th, 1848, pursuant to notice. P. V. Douw, one of the vice-presidents in the chair. Dr. Herman Wendell, from the committee chosen at the last meeting, to propose a premium list for 1848, reported a list, which was adopted, and which will be published hereafter. After various amendments were made to the rules, and notices of intended alterations to the constitution given, the following gentlemen were appointed by the chair, to report a list of officers and committees for 1848, to the Society, at the May meeting:—E. P. Prentice, D. Thomas Vail, V. P. Douw, Herman Wendell, Wm. Buswell, Wm. Newcomb, and Amos Briggs.

The committee on fruits reported that there was exhibited by Dr. J. P. Beekman, of Kinderhook, Columbia county, beautiful specimens of Newtown Pippin and Swaar Apples.

By Thomas M. Burt, of Kinderhook, fine Esopus Spitzenburgh and Swaar Apples.

By Henry Snyder, of Kinderhook, nurseryman, very beautiful Roxbury Russets, Vandervere, Lady Apples, and seedling winter Pears.

By Peter Kingman, of Kinderhook, Bristol Apples, a very good and beautiful sweet apple.

By Albert Martin, per Amos Briggs, of Schaghticoke, Rensselaer co., Blue Pearmain and Swaar Apples.

By Joseph Mosher, per Amos Briggs, Scalloped or German Gilliflower Apples.

By Roswell S. Brown, per Amos Briggs, Westfield Seek-no-further Apples.

By Julius Rhoades, Albany, Northern Spy Apples, from the Chapin orchard, in Ontario county.

By E. C. Frost, of Catharine, Chemung co., Winter King Apples, a very beautiful, as well as valuable late winter fruit.

By Dr. Herman Wendell, Albany, Newtown Pippin, and Male Carle, or Pomme de Charles Apples, Inconnue of Van Mons, Easter Beurre, and Prince's St. Germain Pears.

By Wm. Newcomb, of Pittstown, Roxbury Russets, Westfield Seek-No-Further, Rhode Island Greening, Blue Pearmain, Fall Greening, Black Gilliflower, Pound Sweet, Esopus Spitzenburgh, Red Gilliflower, and two seedlings.

The committee have awarded the premium on Winter Pears, to Dr. Herman Wendell, 3 00

The first premium on Winter Apples, to Wm. Newcomb, of Pittstown,..... 3 00

The second, on Winter Apples, to Dr. Herman Wendell,..... 2 00

The committee beg leave to recommend that the thanks of the Society be tendered to Dr. J. P. Beekman, T. M. Burt, Henry Snyder, and Peter Kingman, of Columbia county, and also E. C. Frost, of Chemung county, and to the gentlemen from Schaghticoke, for their contributions to the exhibition.

V. P. Douw, Wm. Buswell, } *Com.*

Feb. 11th, 1848.

The committee on Floral Designs, Bouquets, &c., reported that there were exhibited by the president of the society, Col. Rathbone, three beautiful bouquets, composed of choice green house flowers, and arranged with good taste, by his gardener, John Sloan, to whom they awarded the premium of $2.

The committee regret that the extreme cold weather, the mercury being below 0, prevented a greater display.

Herman Wendell, D. Thomas Vail, J. McD. McIntyre, } *Com.*

Feb. 11, 1848.

The committee on Green House Flowers, reported that there was exhibited by Jas. Wilson, of Albany, the following display of very beautiful Camelia Japonicas, viz: Queen Victoria, Chandlerii, Doncklarii, Saccoi Magnifique, Sesanqua Rosea, Amabilis, Candidissima, Henri Favre, Prattii, Sarah Frost, Marchioness of Exeter, Double White, Carnea, Carswelliana, Picturata, Sherwoodii, Rose Plomo, "Gunnelliana," Tricolor, Imbricata, William IV, Double Striped and Elata; Ericas, Boweiana, and Transparens; Eschynanthus Grandiflora, Poinsettia Pulcherimum, twenty varieties beautiful Pansies, Chinese Primroses, &c.

The committee awarded the premium of $3, for the best six varieties exhibited, to Mr. Wilson; the varieties were Fimbriate, Carswelliana, Sarah Frost, Gunnelliana, Imbricata, and Candidissima. They also awarded the premium of $2 for the second best six varieties, to Mr. Wilson; the varieties are Henri Favre, Amabilis, Double White, Saccoi Magnifique, William IV, and Queen Victoria. They awarded to Mr. Wilson, a premium of $2, for his beautiful display of Pansies

Wm. Newcomb, L. Menand. } *Com.*

Albany, Feb. 11, 1848.

The committee on Discretionary Premiums, reported that there was exhibited by Col. Rathbone, three bunches of Asparagus, evincing great skill in his gardener, John Sloan, to whom they have awarded a premium of two dollars.

J. McD. McIntyre, D. Thomas Vail, Herman Wendell, } *Com.*

Feb. 11, 1848.

The several reports were accepted, and the Society adjourned. Signed,

B. P. Johnson, *Sec'y.*

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Buffalo Horticultural Society.—At the Annual Meeting of the Buffalo Horticultural Society, held Feb. 9, 1848, the President, Lewis F. Allen, in the chair, on motion, it was

Resolved, That the Society proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year.

The president, Lewis F. Allen, declined being a

candidate for re-election; the Secretary, C. F. S. THOMAS, also declined being a candidate for re-election, whereupon,

W. R. COPPOCK, was unanimously elected President, and the following Vice Presidents:

Lewis Eaton,	C. F. S. Thomas,
Orlando Allen,	Abner Bryant,
H. B. Potter,	Joseph Dart,
Dr. G. F. Pratt,	Wm. W. Mann,

Robert M'Pherson.

Treasurer—John R. Lee.

Corresponding Secretary—Benj. Hodge.

Recording Secretary—William Coleman.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Flowers and Flowering Plants.—W. R. Coppock, C. F. S. Thomas, and Elijah Ford.

Fruits.—Lewis Eaton, C. Taintor, Lewis F. Allen.

Vegetables.—H. W. Rogers, W. W. Mann, and H. A. Parsons.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be extended to W. R. Coppock, for the able manner in which he has reported the proceedings of this Society for the last year.

Resolved, That the members of this Society be entitled to receive from the store of L. S. Reynolds, 20 lbs. of Guano each, upon presenting a member's ticket for 1848.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society are cordially tendered to our late President, Lewis F. Allen, for the able, impartial and energetic manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office during the last three years—and that it is with pleasure we indulge the hope of his efficient co-operation with us in the government of the Society for many years to come.

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WARD'S CASES.—In the January number, I notice some accounts of growing plants in "Ward's Cases," by your able correspondent, Dr. Wm. W. Valk. Now what I wish is, some more definite account of said case, its form and construction, and especially what kind of plants may be most successfully grown in it; and whether they will *bloom* as freely and fully in it as elsewhere. With our plants in the parlor we are all more or less troubled with the aphis, red spider and dust, so that before winter is half gone, many lose their plants altogether, and those which survive look like *Pharaoh's lean kine.* If the Rose, Pelargonium, Camellia, Orange, &c., will flourish and bloom in such a case, and if it can be constructed with a door, so that some of the pots can be exchanged from time to time, to give variety, it seems to be the very ARTICLE needed in our parlors and sitting-rooms, to take the place of the pots and other vessels, by which our windows are now encumbered and sullied. Some further information on this subject would gratify an amateur of flowers. With due respect, yours, &c. *E. G. Bridgewater, Mass., Jan. 7, 1848.*

[We forwarded the above to Dr. VALK, and E. G. will find a full response in previous pages of this number.]

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BLOODY HICKORY NUTS.—We have been favored by Mr. NEWLIN, of Fishkill Landing, N. Y., with specimens of some remarkably large and fair native walnuts, or hickory nuts, from a tree growing on his premises. These nuts are nearly three times as large as those of the common shell-bark hickory, rather flattened, and with a large and excellent kernel. Altogether, it is one of the finest distinct natural varieties of our American walnuts that we have yet seen, and deserves to be propagated by spring-budding.

These nuts are not only large and excellent; they are also distinguished by a characteristic as striking as it is peculiar. About one-third of the nuts produced every year by this tree have *kernels* deeply *stained with red* throughout. These "bloody nuts," as they are called, have a flavor which is good, though quite different from that of the common sort, or the others of natural color, borne upon the same tree. So remarkable a tree, of course, has its *legend;* it would be a neighborhood unusually destitute of faith or imagination, where there is not enough of the marvellous for this. According to veritable history, then, an Indian, one of the "Wappingers," the tribe of this region, was made to expiate some of his real or supposed sins done in the body, by hanging, on this hickory-nut, which, since that day, (does "old Hickory" revolt at capital punishment?) the tree has borne, every year, a part of its crop of *bloody nuts.* The tree is a large and fine one.

.....

PRUNING UNHEALTHY EVERGREENS.—Will you have the goodness to inform a subscriber, in your next number of the Horticulturist, whether the shortening-in system of pruning, which you recommend for peach trees, would be equally beneficial in thickening the branches and increasing the foliage of evergreens.

I have two or three of the common pine and hemlock, some fifteen or eighteen feet high, which begin to look a little like the skeleton peach tree in your book; the interior and under branches dying, and the foliage meagre and thin.

The soil is natural to the hemlock; trees of that kind, of three feet diameter, having formerly been cut and taken from almost the very spot where the young ones now stand. I would take almost any pains to see them flourishing—the branches and foliage thick and green; and therefore ask advice from experience. Would it do, just to cut off a little of the tops? *A Novice. Auburn, N. Y., February 7th*, 1848.

[Evergreens will bear shortening-in, if it is done gradually and moderately. But, we suspect that our correspondent's trees are suffering for want of proper food in the soil. If so, and he will *top-dress* the ground under his trees, as far as the roots extend, with wood ashes, at the rate of a bushel to a tree, we think they will recover their verdure and health rapidly. The ashes of hemlock or pine, often to be had where timber land is being cleared and burnt over, would be the best. ED.]

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REPLANTING THE ROSE.—The Rose, even in the best soils, should be taken up every three or four years, and have its roots shortened and pruned: a portion of the soil in which it grew should also be removed, and mixed with the soil before described, [a strong rich loam, mixed one-fourth with decom-

posed stable manure.] Where the soil is poor, they should be taken up every other year, and replanted, after renewing the soil as above, or digging it with plenty of manure.

Van Mons states, that in Belgium, the plants are uniformly taken up at the end of eight years, and placed in fresh soil; or they are thrown away, and young plants substituted in their place. This substitution of young plants is, perhaps, the most certain mode of ensuring a continual supply of strong healthy wood and well-formed flowers. — *Parsons on the Rose.*

MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Exhibition of Saturday, January 8, 1848.

FLOWERS.—A Seedling Camellia, of great beauty, from Noel J. Becar, Esq., corresponding member, Brooklyn, New-York.

Description —A vigorous plant of fine habit; young wood, clear amber brown; foliage strong, frequently large; leaves two and a half broad, by three inches long; roundish oval, flat, coarsely dentated, accuminate, recurved at the point; petiole very short; bud quite plump and round, slightly pointed; calycinal scales, green, pubescent; flower large, three and a half to four inches in diameter, thick, with very circular and perfect outline; petals bold, numerous, arranged with great regularity and symmetry from the circumference to the centre; colour, clear rose, precisely the shade of C. elegans. Flowers of this variety, which had sported, were also exhibited, most beautifully spotted and mottled with white, bearing, in this respect, a close affinity to one of its parents, the C. Donkalarii, produced from C. Coivillii, fertilized by C. Donkalarii.

Joseph Breck,
Chairman of the Flower Committee.

Exhibition of Saturday, February 12, 1848.

FLOWERS.—From M. P. Wilder, president of the society a fine collection of Camellia Japonicas, embracing thirty-three varieties; among them were five seedlings, very good, but not to be compared with his fine seedlings figured in the Horticultural Transactions.

Among the new varieties were C. Teutonia; deep flesh colour, striped with red; a remarkable fine variety; C. Colletii, spotted with white; C. Nitida, resembling a variegated bloom of C. Imbricata; C. Peregrina, curiously mottled and striped; C. Campomolondina, &c. Among the old sorts, C. Donkalarii, C. Ochroleuca, C. Duchesse d'Orleans, Henri Favre, Old White, &c. Also, Abution Venosum; fine specimens of Chorizema Varium, and a long branch of Seedling Acacia, from A. Spectabilis, not varying much from it, except it being more vigorous.

From Warren's Garden, by John Cadness, twelve fine varieties of Camellias, viz: C Lowii, Eximia, Mrs. Abby Wilder, Ochroleuca, Alba Plena, Imbricata, Grunelii, Candidissima, Henri Favre, Elegans, Middlemist and Leana Superba. Also, six plants of Primula Sinensis Plena, and one single do., well grown; and one plant each of Borronia Anemoneflora and Pinnata.

From Col. T. H. Perkins, by William Quant, ten fine plants of Primula Sinensis.

From Hovey & Co., sixteen varieties of Camellias, viz: C. Imbricata, Myrtifolia, Henri Favre, Elegans, Delicatissima, Feastii, Floyii, Tricolor, Donkalarii, Corallina, Ochroleuca, Decora, &c. Also, fine Seedling Azaleas.

Award of Premiums on Primulas.—Joseph Breck, C. M. Hovey and A Bowditch, judges. As neither the competitors had the requisite number of varieties to receive a premium, and as the plants of each were finely grown, the judges recommend a gratuity of $3 each, to John Cadness and William Quant.

Award of Premiums on Camellia Japonicas —Joseph Breck, William Quant and Thomas Needham, judges. For the best twelve varieties, the first premium to John Cadness,.... $8 00
For the 2d best do., the 2d premium to Wm. Quant,... 5 00
The judges recommend a gratuity to M. P. Wilder, of.. 8 00

Joseph Breck,
Chairman of the Flower Committee.

A business meeting was held February 5th, 1848.—President Wilder in the Chair.

The committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Mt. Auburn Cemetery, reported, that they had attended to the duty assigned them, and had received from Geo. W. Bond, Esq., of said association, a further sum of $995.09, making a total of $4495.09, as the society's proportion for the year 1847; which amount has been passed over to the Treasurer.

The committee also renewed the demand for the society's proportion of receipts *for private interments*, which was, as usual, demurred to.

Marshall P. Wilder,
For the Committee.

Cheever Newhall, as chairman of the Committe on Medals, reported that he had received 50 silver medals, valued at $5 each.

Voted, That they be delivered to the Treasurer, who is authorised to have them appropriately engraved.

Voted, That the Committee on Medals be authorised to procure all such medals as may be required.

The President, as chairman of the Executive Committee, reported, on the invitation of the Natural History Society, that this society remove their library to said society's room—that it is inexpedient, and that the Secretary be requested to advise the Natural History Society accordingly.

The Executive Committee also reported, that they advise filling up the blank sum in the report of the committee on the library, with $100.

Voted, That the chairman of the Committee on Medals have charge of all medals, and deliver them to the Treasurer, as they may be wanted.

Daniel Leach, Roxbury, Edward Burns, Brighton, Edward J. Rand and Dan. L. Smalley, Needham, were elected subscription members.

E. C. R. Walker,
Recording Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The stated meeting of the society occurred on the evening of 18th January, 1848. The President in the Chair.

The display was not extensive, owing to a change in the weather during the day to cold, hazarding an exposure of green-house plants. Yet, there was one collection the more creditable to the contributor, Mr. Robert Kilvington, which consisted of Azaleas, Camellias Roses, etc. The President's gardener presented a handsome collection of cut Camellias, bouquets and a basket of cut flowers; also, several bunches of asparagus and heads of lettuce Other bouquets were shown by Andrew Dryburgh, R. Kilvington, James Bisset and David Fergusson, gardener to Jos. Ripka, who also exhibited cut specimens of the Rose Souvenir de la Malmaison, and Rhododendron Cunninghamii. There was an interesting display of cultivated cranberries, from Nantucket, and a goodly collection of vegetables by Anthony Felten.

The following are the reports of the committees:—

The committee on plants and flowers reported having awarded premiums, viz: For the best basket of cut flowers, to Andrew Dryburgh; for the 2d best basket, to Robert Kilvington. For the best bouquet, to David Fergusson, gardener to Joseph Ripha, Manayunk; for the 2d best bouquet, B Daniels, gardener to C. Cope; for the best collection of plants in pots, to Robert Kilvington. A special premium of two dollars, for a beautiful collection of cut Camellias, to B. Daniels. The committee called the attention of the society to a very beautiful specimen of the rose, named Souvenir de la Malmaison, exhibited by D. Fergusson, gardener to J Ripka, Manayunk.

The committee on fruits report, that their attention has been called to a quantity of cranberries, of upland growth, from the island of Nantucket, raised by J. G. Gardner of that place; beautiful in appearance, and well worthy the notice of amateurs; a number of the plants are sent along for sale, and which are said to be easy of cultivation, and luxuriant bearers. Your committee respectfully recommend a premium of three dollars for the same; which was approved of.

The committee on vegetables reported that they had awarded the following premiums: For the best and most interesting display, by market gardeners, and the 2d best do, to Anthony Felten, and a special premium of two dollars to B. Daniels, gardener to C. Cope, for a fine specimen of asparagus and lettuce.

An extract of a letter to a member of the society, from Capt. Chas. Naylor, dated "National Palace, Mexico, Dec 3, 1847," was read, stating that he had made a collection of seeds for the society, and was preparing a large collection of plants, which he deferred forwarding to a more favorable season; and that he would be pleased to receive instructions from the society, as to what would be most desirable from Mexico. On motion,

Ordered, That the communication be referred to the committee on the distribution of seeds, etc.

The Corresponding Secretary reported replies from the following recently elected honorary members, viz: Hon. D. K. Este, Cincinnati, Ohio; Dr. J W. Thomson, Wilmington, Delaware; Sam'l Walker, Boston, Massachusetts; Cheever Newhall, Boston, Massachusetts, and J. S. Cabot, Salem, Massachusetts. Also, a communication from A. H. Ernst, hon. member of Cincinnati, in relation to an interchange of grafts of fruit trees, and the correction of the names of fruits forwarded by him, to which the Corresponding Secretary was requested to reply.

The President appointed the following standing committees for the ensuing year, viz:

Committee for Establishing the Names of Fruits—Dr. Wm. D. Brinckle, Thomas Hancock, Elhanan W. Keyser, James D Fulton, and Dr. Thos. McEwen.

Committee for Establishing Premiums.—Thomas Hancock, Dr. Wm. D Brinckle, Tho. C Percival, Andrew Dryburgh, and Isaac B. Baxter.

Committee on New Plants, etc.—John B. Smith, Dr. James H. Bradford, Tho. I. James, Dr. A. L. Ellwyn, and Joseph D. Spayd.

Library Committee—Robert Buist, Tho I. James, Dr. Tho. McEwen, Wm. McGuigan, and James Bisset.

Committee on Finance.—Isaac Elliott, John R. Brinckle, and Wm. F. Jones.

Committee for the Disiribution of Seeds, etc.—Tho. C. Percival, J. Snider, jr., and John Rutherford, jr.

Committee to Superintend Exhibitions.—John Sherwood, *Chairman;* John R. Baker, Isaac B. Baxter, H. B. Blanchard, Dr. I. H. Bradford, Dr. W. D. Brinckle, Robert Burwell, Alexander Caie, Wm. Chalmers, George B. Deacon, Wm. H. Dillingham, Henry A Dreer, A. Dryburgh, Richard Fetters, Peter K Gorgas, C. P. Hayes, Wm. Johns, Wm. F. Jones, E. W. Keyser, R. Kilvington, N. Knowles, P. Mackenzie, Dr. Tho. McEwen, E. Meredith, J. E. Mitchell. T. C. Percival, Rich. Price, Peter Raabe, James Ritchie, John Rutherford, jr, Sam'l R Simmons, C. S. Smith, W. S. Vaux, Dr. Gavin Watson, and Geo. Zantzinger.

Members elected to Honorary Membership.—Nicholas Longworth, Cincinnati, Ohio; Stephen H. Smith and Levi C. Eaton, Providence, R. I. Adjourned.

Tho. P. James,
Recording Secretary.

Annual Meeting—The annual meeting was organized by calling Mr. E. W. Keyser to the Chair, and appointing Chas. P. Hayes secretary. On motion, it was resolved to proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year; whereupon, the following gentlemen were duly elected:

President.—Caleb Cope.

Vice-Presidents.—Gen. R. Patterson, David Landreth. James Dundas and Joshua Longstreth.

Treasurer.—John Thomas.

Corresponding Secretary—Thomas C. Percival.

Recording Secretary.—Thomas P. James.

The stated meeting for February was held in the Chinese saloon, on Tuesday evening the 15th. The President in the Chair. The display consisted of several tables of Camellias, Azaleas, and Cinerarias; beautiful specimens of cut Camellias and bouquets. Of vegetables, there was a fine show; among which were asparagus, sea kale, bleached rhubarb and lettuce.

Premiums were awarded for the following: For the best six named varieties of Camellias, to B. Daniels, gardener to C. Cope. For the best six regularly shaped cut Camellias, and for the best six do. of other forms, to James Ritchie. For the best six Primula Sinensis, to B. Daniels. For the most interesting collection of plants in pots, to James Ritchie; for the second most interesting collection, to B. Daniels. For the best bouquet of cut flowers, to Andrew Dryburgh; for the 2d best do., to Peter Raabe. For the best basket of cut flowers, to B. Daniels. A special premium of two dollars to B. Daniels, for a very fine collection of Seedling Cinerarias, exhibited three months in advance of the schedule. The committee called the attention of the society to a specimen of the Mistletoe; the first, (although indigenous,) they believe, shown before the society, presented by R. Kilvington.

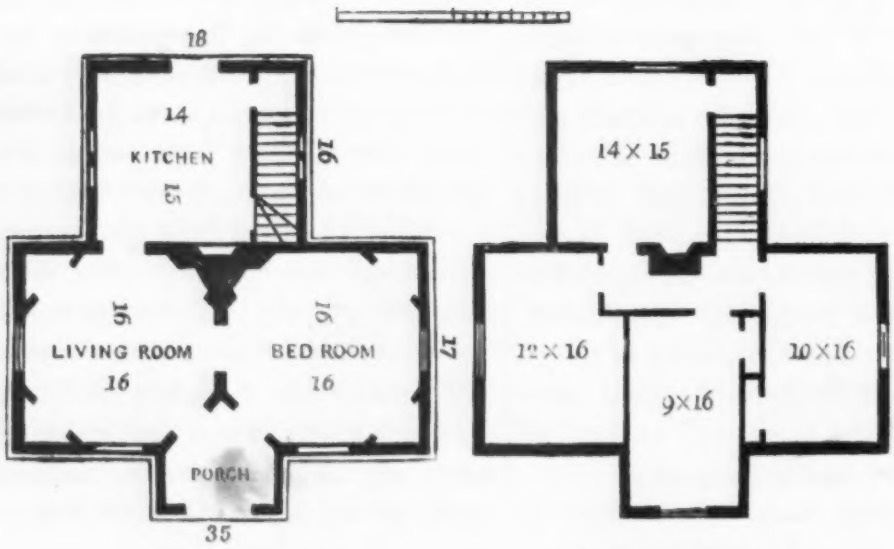
For the best display of vegetables, shown by market gardeners, and the second best do., to Anthony Felton. For the best display of vegetables, by an amateur gardener, to B. Daniels, gardener to Caleb Cope. The committee notice a fine display of lettuce from Caleb Cope's.

The Corresponding Secretary read a communication, received from B. P. Johnson, Secretary of the New-York State Agricultural Society, explanatory of the reception of our delegates at the fair at Saratoga.

Members Elected.—Wistar Morris, L. C. Madeira, and Thompson Newkirk.

Tho. P. James,
Recording Secretary.

SMALL COTTAGE.



FIRST FLOOR

ATTIC FLOOR.

[Horticulturist: April, 1848.]